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ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SURVEY IN THE WEST DILLON AND TENDOY MOUNTAIN PLANNING UNITS

by Vernon Scarborough
Bureau of Land Management
Dillon District Office

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY
WEST DILLON AND TENDOY
MOUNTAIN PLANNING UNITS

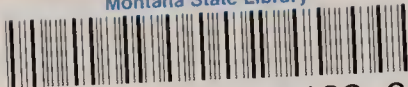
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SURVEY IN THE WEST
DILLON AND TENDRY MOUNTAIN PLANNING UNITS OF
BEAVERHEAD COUNTY, SOUTHWESTERN MONTANA

Vernon Scarborough

August 1974

a Western Interstate Commission for
Higher Education (WICHE) Project
sponsored by the Dillon District Office
of the Bureau of Land Management

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Elfreda Woodside of the Beaverhead County Museum and Bob Gibson from the Forest Department in Bozeman proved to be invaluable informants. Other local informants provided additional information.

The above individuals are cited as informants on the original site forms and in the body of this report when applicable. It is indeed fortunate that the Dillon District Office has had a history of interest in the preservation and recording of antiquities.

My wife, Diana, was also instrumental in the completion of this project. She drew and labeled artifacts, prepared maps, helped with the research and typing and proofread all copies of the paper.

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INTRODUCTION

This narrative and accompanying site descriptions represent only the most cursory glance into the historical events which shaped the study area. More time and energy are required for a thorough chronology of the area.

The prehistory of the study area has been badly neglected by professional archeologists, while amateur diggings go unsupervised and, worse yet, unpublished. Pot hunting has destroyed many key sites in the area. Fortunately, the Department of the Interior (BLM) is currently very interested in preservation programs dealing with significant paleontological, archeological and historical sites. Executive Order 11593 has made looting of any potential prehistoric or historic site a crime. And soon there may be an Organic Act by which the Bureau of Land Management and other federal agencies can mete out stiff penalties to violators.

Potting activities in the Beaverhead area, as well as the rest of Montana, have made the deletion of detailed locational directions from this report necessary. However, authorized personnel who represent preservation or scholastic programs and who abide by federal regulations may receive information on exact site locations from the Dillon District Office.

The project study area encompassed the West Dillon and Tendoy Mountain Planning Units. Marginal areas to the northwest and the central east were also examined. The study area was primarily west of Highway 15 from Monida, south to Melrose. Areas in the Sweetwater Creek and Blacktail Deer Creek drainages to the south and east of Dillon were also inventoried. The south, southwest and western boundary of the study area was defined by the great arc of the Continental Divide. The northern border was more or less, defined by the course of the Big Hole River. Only sites on or adjacent to lands managed by the Bureau were inventoried.

It should be stated at the onset that BLM lands are highly fractured plots in an area of archeological and historical continuity. The rich bottom land of the intermontane valleys and streams have been purchased by private interests. Agriculture and ranching represent the major holdings, with mining an ever present economic interest. The timbered montane zones are managed under the Forest Department. The State of Montana also has acreage under its management, such as the restored territorial capitol of Pannack.

Many potential sites were not inventoried, because of this piecemeal arrangement of land ownership. No doubt, aboriginal man inhabited the lush valley regions teeming with fish and abundant game, while the timbered regions provided necessary shelter, fuel and additional game. This settlement pattern is also evident in the later white migrations. The lands managed by the Dillon District are predominately rolling hills, with little edible plant cover, situated between the verdant bottom lands and the timbered mountains. This area produced the sites recorded in this report, probably representing only the nomadic seasonal trails and camp sites and later pioneer trails and way stations.

The format of the report is to present a narrative of two parts; a prehistoric sketch and a Pioneer Historical sketch. A third part is devoted

to inventoried site description.

The sites are coded using the RLM system of site identification. Any gaps in the numerical sequence are due to previously inventoried sites, not presented in this report. Two site areas were dealt with as Archeological Districts, because of the quantity of sites inventoried in a confined space. Archeological District (AR25-05-10) was subdivided into sites using the added code of (AR25-05-10-1) through (AR25-05-10-7). Archeological District (AR25-05-14) through (AR25-05-20) was labeled slightly differently, because the full potential of the area was not realized until the area had been recorded.

In the third part of the report, all artifacts pictured or referred to are catalogued and on file at the Dillon District Office. Artifacts in the body of the report are drawn to scale for ease of interpretation.

PRE-HISTORY

This pre-historic sketch relies heavily on Mulloy's 1958 thesis "A Preliminary Historical Outline for the Northwestern Plains" and Arthur's short chapter entitled Southern Montana from "The Northwest Plains: A Symposium" of 1968. Site surveys contributed much to the body of interpretive data. Catalogued, cultural debris collected from the surface played a minor role in comparative artifact studies. Private collections were of some value.

Early Prehistoric Period. The first period of human occupation has been identified as the Early Prehistoric Period. Arthur dates this period for Southern Montana from between 12,000-7000 B.P. (Before Present). Reports of Clovis and later Folsom points of this period are the subject of Jasmann's publication (1963:pp. 10-18). Her informants have related that their collections were found in the Beaverhead County area. One Clovis point and one Folsom point were reportedly found in the study area. Bob Gibson of Bozeman has shown me the basal half of a Folsom point found just outside the study area.

The Folsom Complex appears to have been characterized by a nomadic existence based on large extinct species of bison and mammoth. Diagnostic spear point types, defining the presence of this complex, are broad, parallel flaked points, many times showing evidence of a flute or channel flake having been removed from the center of the artifact. Other associated artifacts may be the channel flake itself, small gravers, choppers, bifacially worked pyriform knives, endscrapers and sandstone grinders.

It has been postulated that during this period and subsequent periods the Rocky Mountains acted as a barrier to migration. This view carries less weight since Folsom points have been identified in close proximity to the Continental Divide.

"The Early Period artifacts suggest, inferentially, that similar environmental and cultural events existed during this period on both sides of the Rockies and throughout the mountains of Southern Montana. A similar cultural homogeneity is inferred for both the Middle and Late Prehistoric Periods, so that the Rocky Mountains may not be considered a barrier to culture (Arthur 1968:p. 53)."

A later Plano culture, defined by the Eden Valley point, appears between 9000-7000 B.P. elsewhere in the Northern Plains. Bob Gibson has shown me such points found within the study area. These points again have the fine parallel ribbon-like flaking exemplified by the earlier Folsom point. They are, however, narrower and have a lozenge-shaped cross section lacking the flute of the Clovis point and the Folsom point. Scottsbluff points were not seen in local collections, but the Mac Haffie site near Helena has revealed their presence. As with many of these early period points, they were hafted on spear shafts and either thrown with the aid of a spearthrower or wielded by hand.

These later Early Prehistoric Period hunters were probably hunting smaller species of bison than their ancestors. The mammoth and earlier bison species may have migrated north with the retreating glaciation or possibly met extinction from the hand of man and the accompanying climatic shifts.

Altithermal. A drying trend in Europe and North America is assumed from 7000-4000 B.P. frequently called the Altithermal (Wormington 1957:p. 20). Its effect on the study area is unknown, however, there is some support for a climatic fluctuation.

"Present evidence gives no indication that a warm, arid Altithermal ever existed in Upper Yellowstone. There is, however, the strong possibility that climatic fluctuations occurred in the Rocky Mountains during the Altithermal such as those of the Medithermal in the Lemhi Mountains (Dort 1962: pp. 2-11), and at Birch Creek (Swanson, Butler and Bonnichsen 1964: pp. 107-115) in Idaho (Arthur 1968: p. 55)."

Early Middle Prehistoric Period. The Early Middle Prehistoric Period (6000-2000 B.P.) emphasized nomadic plant gathering and the hunting of smaller game as the principle means of survival. Climatic changes further east may have dried the Plains, producing an influx in the number of bison in the study area. This may have produced a situation in which the biomass of the area was greater than other surrounding regions, with human populations being no exception.

Mulloy (1958:p. 209) disputes this in stating that, in the West, plant collection and a reduced hunting emphasis were the economics of the matter. /It is true that the Mac Haffie site lacks a chronology for the Altithermal (Forbis 1955: p. 2), which might be construed as negative evidence for seasonal band-foraging practices; however, the site is not in the Rocky Mountains./ The Eastern Plains in this scheme probably had a more compatible climate, because buffalo were continually hunted.

It may be that a continual drought, epidemic or even human 'overkill' disrupted the ecological balance of the Plains. If reduced populations did occupy the area, the remainder of the populations may have followed the game east and west to the margins of the Plains. Here, the climate may have been more acceptable.

"A most tempting theory accepted by many Plains archeologists to account for a lack of Middle Period sites in the Great Plains proposes that as the Great Plains became drier, large game animals followed the more lush vegetation of the river valleys into the Rocky Mountains, and in turn were followed by man who abandoned the Plains (Arthur 1968: p. 56)."

Arthur also recognizes that man of this period should be viewed as traveling within a plains/montane milieu, probably constituting

population movement similar to seasonal transhumance (Arthur 1968:p.57). "Seasonal transhumance is the practice of changing abode in a regular and traditionally recognized way, as natural food crops are followed (Davis 1963: p. 202)."

Projectile points of this period may have had antecedents in the Scottsbluff point type. They are smaller, crude lanceolates, some with large basalar constrictions. This may be construed as a decadence in tool production reflecting a deflated hunting economy.

Bone tools, such as awls, knapping tools, beads, etc. increase in assemblages. This probably is more a function of preservation than innovation, as 'Paleo Indian' (Early Prehistoric Period hunter) was no doubt producing similar tools.

It should be noted that I was unable to identify any artifacts of this period from within the study area.

Late Middle Prehistoric Period. The next period in Mulloy's sequence is the Late Middle Prehistoric Period (0-500 AD). Corner notched points, characterized both by convex and concave bases, and grinding stones with one edge ground smooth are the only additions to the tool kit. Western variations of this point type are represented in private collections taken from within the study area.

The quantity of cultural material, as well as the diversity in tool types, is reduced during this period, Mulloy points out that this may be due to the shorter duration of time defining the period, as well as smaller populations. (Mulloy 1958:p. 209). In the West, in spite of an overall reduction in hide working tools, there are more manos and metates. This would imply an economy based on foraging rather than hunting.

Middle Period sites are said to be small in size when above the 6500 foot mark. Taylor's survey of Yellowstone National Park indicated from a large sample, that most sites remained under an acre in extent. (Taylor 1964). Sites within the AR25-05-10 district were probably occupied during this period, as well as subsequent periods.

The occurrence of fire pits is more frequent. These root roasting ovens are found in open camp sites, as in the Shoshoni Basin to the south. There are reports of such ovens from within the study area, but associated index artifacts are absent.

To the east, the first bison traps appear near Billings; Pictograph Cave II, Billings Bison Trap and Signal Butte II reveal a renewed interest in the bison economy (Mulloy 1958:p. 209). The Buffalo Jump Site AR25-05-12 may have been used during the later portion of this period. Late period triangular knives, as Leondorf (1964:pp. 3-6) and Malouf (19:pp. 11-12) describe, are reported

from the kill and butchery area (a large dart point of uncertain type was also collected from the organic layer). There is also evidence, as reviewed by Roberto Costelles, that the site was actually a trap or impoundment rather than a cliff fall. Traps do appear in the Late Prehistoric and Historic Periods, but they also predate the Buffalo Jump of the Late Middle Prehistoric Period.

The site's component parts are ill-defined, possibly indicating that the site was less sophisticated than Buffalo Jump sites in the area. This may in turn imply that social organization and cooperation were in their formative stages. Loosely-organized foraging micro-bands probably exemplify the Middle Prehistoric Period society. Large scale communal buffalo drives do not reach their peak until the Late Prehistoric Period (Arthur 1968:p. 59).

Buffalo Jumps may have been further developed in this region. The topography is certainly conducive to this mode of hunting. In an area of forty square miles east of the Beaverhead Valley four previously unrecorded jumps were identified. A fifth jump was reported within the area but not yet located.

If this period were slightly drier, the foraging practices of the Great Basin may have affected the economy of the Wyoming Basin (Mulloy 1958:p. 210). If this effect were wide spread, game that earlier hunting societies depended on may have migrated or, as proposed earlier, simply remained in the Rocky Mountain valleys. The study area may have seen human populations on the upswing. A warming trend at lower elevations may have allowed for milder winters in and adjacent to this area.

Pottery appears to be absent from the study area until the next period. Woodland-influenced, Eastern Plains pottery and crude, ancestral Shoshone ware to the south are present outside the study area.

Tipi or stone rings appear in the Northwest Plains during this period. From Billings, Shoshoni Basin and Laramie, Wyoming (Mulloy 1958:p. 211) come corner-notched points associated with these rings. The rings are usually not associated with artifacts, so it is difficult to date those reported from within the study area. Most occur in camps often to thirty rings, indicative of fairly large groups, probably more in keeping with the occupational patterns of the Late Prehistoric and Historic periods.

Transhumance, patterned after the Desert Culture of the Great Basin (Davis 1963:pp. 202-212 and Arthur 1968:pp. 56-57), apparently was the mode of existence for the West. However, in the study area, bison herds may have been on the increase allowing more socially organized groups east of the Beaverhead to tap this food source. These nomadic hunters probably remained in the intermontane area but at lower elevations during the winter months. The periodic

foragers, traversing the intermontane region in the spring and summer months, would have shared the region with the bison hunters by gathering root crops and occasionally hunting bison and smaller game.

Sites AR25-05-14 through AR25-05-19 are ideal locations for such temporary occupants. A fishtail point as described by Malouf (1960: p. 10) was reportedly collected by Bob Gibson from this district. A fire pit, possibly a root roasting oven, was exposed in a road cut from site AR25-05-18.

Late Prehistoric Period. The Late Prehistoric Period (500-1800 AD) differs from the Native American Historic Period, mainly in the presence or absence of European trade goods and, in particular, the horse.

The bison returned to the Plains during this period, due in part to a cooling or ameliorative climatic condition similar to the present (Medithermal). Camp size and number and assemblage quantity and diversity, including pottery, all increased during this period. The bison hunter, however, appears to have de-emphasized the study area, migrating with the bison back into the central and eastern Northern Plains. The study area was in continual use, judging from the great number of side-notched points.

The same attractions that lured the sedentary villager of the Missouri into the Plains probably appealed to the early bison hunters. The Buffalo Jumps to the east of the study area probably were utilized a great deal during this period. But the hunting of sheep, elk, and antelope were becoming increasingly popular prey as evidenced by pictographs in the region.

Smaller game, too, such as ground squirrel, jack rabbit and cottontail rabbit were, and still are, a plentiful food source in spite of the avid sharpshooter. Mulloy states, "They can be trapped easily and the writer feels that at present in a great many areas in this region /Northwestern Plains/ even he, though not accustomed to earn his living this way, could keep a family group alive by hunting with a bow without resorting to other game (Mulloy 1958:p. 19)". If this is slightly overstated, the message is clear, the Native American did have a variety of foods to dine on. Hunting and gathering geared to a seasonal transhumance was the economic scheme.

The advent of the bow and arrow further north and its subsequent popularity throughout the Plains occurred at this time. It replaced the spear or dart thrower. The dimensions of points are reduced in the transition from spear to arrow or from Middle to Late Prehistoric.

"In the Late Prehistoric Period, the transition from atlatl and spear to bow and arrow is suggested by the large Besant points. Besant culture, dated at AD 377±325 (Wettlaufen and Mayer-Oakes 1960:p. 41) and associated with bison kills (Arthur 1962:pp. 16-27; Davis and Stallcop 1965:pp. 1-27) is followed stratigraphically by the distinctive small Avonlea points radiocarbon dated at 1500±100 B.P. (S-45, letter from K. J. McCallam, Nov. 12, 1959; Kehoe and McCorguodale 1961:p. 186) which are very similar to the very late side-notched points (Arthur 1968:p. 60)."

Many small side-notched points, some associated with Buffalo Jumps, are typical finds from within the study area.

The shelters erected by Late Prehistoric Period man from within the study area were predominately tepee structures covered with animal hide. The conical timbered lodge, locally referred to as a wickiup, probably first appears during this period. Its form strikingly resembles the tepee. The only prerequisite for the 'wickiup' was that it be situated in a timbered location. "Truncated conical brush structures incorporating vertical sandstone slabs around the periphery, and cribbed log structure--(Arthur 1968:p. 60)" are in marked absence. "The conical timbered lodge was built predominately on the Northern Plains, and especially in the Intermontane region of southwestern Montana (Kidwell 1969: p. 3)."

The mobility necessary for seasonal hunting within the Intermontane region was facilitated by the coming of the horse. Prior to the horse, the dog pulled the travois laden with the baggage necessary for survival. "Late in the Late Prehistoric Period, sometime about A.D. 1750, the introduction of the horse to the Northwestern Plains greatly increased the mobility of the previously pedestrian nomad. Before the appearance of the horse; the dog, fitted with a travois, provided the only beast of burden available to the wandering inhabitants of the Great Plains." (Haberman 1973:p. 72).

Crow. Some pottery from the study area may be a decadent outgrowth of Mandan-Hidatsa ware transmitted up the Yellowstone by the Crow.

"Present evidence indicates that highly important were several movements out of the east. It has already been suggested that in the preceding period westward movements of a simplified, peripheral Plains Woodland stripped of earth lodges, pottery, agriculture and much other cultural complexity may be involved though dates indicate that the westward penetration of Woodland belongs in the Late Prehistoric Period (Mulloy 1958:p. 214)."

However, it probably was not until the arrival of the mounted Crow warrior that the Crow entered the study area.

"...I think the transformation of the Crow from a horticultural to a nomadic people must have been an eighteenth century phenomenon; and it is likely that their complete orientation to a nomadic hunting-gathering economy probably did not antedate their acquisition of the horse during the second quarter of the eighteenth century (Ewers 1968:p. 74)"

Shoshoni. Most pottery from collections in this area appear to be crude Shoshoni pottery. This represents Shoshoni migrations north, both on foot (see section on Shield Motifs) and on mounts late in the period. The Shoshoni were probably the principle occupants of the study area prior to and early in the Historic Period.

The Shoshoni were some of the first Native Americans to obtain the horse. Their Great Basin economy was substantially altered with the acquisition of the horse from the Pueblo of New Mexico. By 1690, the horse was in Southeastern Idaho. (Haines 1955:p. 18)

"In this natural horse country the herds increased rapidly, to the benefit of the Shoshoni and their neighbors; both to the northwest and northeast. These tribes, the Crow, Blackfeet, Flathead and Nez Perce, sometimes brought, but more often stole Shoshoni horses for their own use (Haines 1955:p. 18)."

Within the study area, the Shoshoni migrations northward proceeded cautiously. The Nez Perce, having developed the selective breeding apparent in the Appaloosa, repelled Shoshoni advances into the western intermontane bison zones. The Blackfeet to the north had acquired the gun early and by the time they entered the study area, they were surely mounted. In describing the fierce attacks dealt to the Nez Perce in their attempt to hunt in Helena Valley, Haines stated:

"Almost at once, they were attacked and driven back by the numerous, powerful Blackfeet, who had secured an ample supply of guns from the British traders coming in from Hudson Bay. With their superior weapons, they opened a campaign to drive the Shoshoni and the western tribes back across the mountains" (Haines 1955:p. 24).

"The Shoshoni must have suffered terrible losses in their losing battle with the Blackfeet. In 1805, a French trader, Francois Larogue, found twelve lodges of Shoshonis living with the Crow Indians on the Yellowstone. He identified them as the remnants of one of their 'tribe' that had been destroyed. But the greater number of Shoshonis retreated westward, crossing the Rockies to avoid the relentless attacks of their old enemies (Ewers 1958:p. 30)."

The study area received their retreat.

The Crow to the east had probably not established contact with the Shoshoni before the Shoshoni relaxed their explosive migratory trends. "Shoshoni neighbors on the east are unknown. Maybe the Crow were already entering the region, but there is no evidence yet to show when they finally met the Shoshoni (Malouf 1968:p. 8-10)."

Shield Motif. The shield motif, having found expression in the study area at site AR25-05-28 seems to be Shoshoni in origin. Malouf's second page of illustrations in his article "The Shoshonian Migrations Northward," reveals a shield of similar depiction (Identified in his article by the letter L). It was discovered in Montana and attributed to a Shoshoni artisan (Malouf 1968:p. 12).

"According to Wormington (1955:p. 160), shieldbearing warrior designs in Pictograph Cave in Montana are nearly identical to those in Utah and Colorado. If indeed they are related, the relationship is most likely by way of southwestern Wyoming and northward along the east slope of the Rocky Mountains. Shield-bearing warrior designs are seldom seen in pictograph sites in southwestern Montana or Idaho and none have been reported from Washington or Oregon." (Arthur 1968:p. 61).

This may argue for a pre-horse Shoshoni predecessor within the study area.

It should also be noted that there is some support for the shield motif within the study area dating to the Historic Period. Despite the fact that buffalo hide shields would not present any great military advantage with the development of horse and gun warfare, they may have persisted as supernatural allies in deflecting enemy spirits. Additional support for a later date may be the sheep figure painted on the panel next to the shield bearing warrior. It appears to be painted by the same steady hand that painted the shield. This may imply the presence of the Tukudika or Sheepeater Shoshoni. If this were so, the shield would have had a great psychological effect on a people who never took advantage of the military edge or the back-packing abilities of the horse.

Sheepeater Shoshoni. The Sheepeater Shoshoni were known to make Yellowstone National Park their permanent, year-round home (Arthur 1968: p. 54). It may be that the study area was an extension of the Sheepeater Shoshoni territory. Some credence is lent to this hypothesis by the recollection that the conical lodge sites in Yellowstone Park (Wickiup Creek; 24YE301 and Lava Creek; 24YE2) certainly resemble those documented from the Dillon District (AR25-05-3 and AR25-05-4).

Lemhi. The Lemhi was a Shoshoni band to which Sacajawea of Lewis and Clark fame belonged. The pressures of Plains warfare were certainly felt by the Lemhi.

"Sometime around 1795, a Shoshoni girl named Sacajawea was captured by a Hidatsa war party from North Dakota. She was seized in southwestern Montana just about four miles above the confluence of the Jefferson, Madison, and Gallatin rivers, the three great streams which unite at this point to become the Missouri River. Some ten years later, when she returned with the Lewis and Clark Expedition, in 1805, she expected to find her people near Great Falls, Montana, at the edge of the Northwestern Plains. The party arrived here in August of 1805, but as they continued upstream, week after week, there were no signs of the Shoshoni. Finally they reached a village in Idaho, in the Salmon River drainage. Thus, in that decade in which she was absent, the Shoshoni had been forced to withdraw from the Missouri River headwaters into Idaho and the Columbia system (Malouf 1968:p. 17)."

Blackfoot. The Blackfoot surge into the study area occurred in the early Historic Period. Blackfoot insurgency is credited with the persistent harassment of John Colter and company beginning as early as 1808. The Vandenburg Massacre of 1832 is attributed to an incensed Blackfoot war party. It took place eight miles southwest of the present site of Dillon. (Montana Historic Sites Compendium 1974:p. 170). The Blackfoot's early acquisition of the gun and effective penetration into southwestern Montana has already been mentioned in regard to intertribal warfare. "The Blackfoot had a large population, and a more compact social and political organization which made for better utilization of their strength." (Malouf 1968: p. 17).

Population growth would have been even greater but for the devastating effects of smallpox. The epidemics were first contracted from the Shoshoni in 1781. Smallpox decimated Shoshoni populations, however, allowing the advance guard of the Blackfoot to continue their penetration. (Ewers 1958:pp. 28-29 and Ewers 1968:p. 76).

The Blackfoot may be responsible for some of the credited Shoshoni pottery found in the Beaverhead County Museum. This warrants further examination.

In spite of a snake figure symbolic of the Shoshoni themselves, the pictograph site AR25-05-25 may illustrate some Blackfoot traditions. A representation of the sacred lodge for the womens' secret society (Mahtokiks) as documented by Schultz appears on the northeast facing panel. Other tribes may have erected similar structures, but a group of figures on the east facing panel may represent the Blackfoot mens' secret society (Itskinaks). These figures may be interpreted as long poles with crooked ends similar to those pictured in Schultz's photograph (Schultz 1962:p. 272 d,e, and f).

Bannock. The Bannock tribes migrated into Beaverhead county via Bannock and Lemhi passes late in the Historic Period. Their homeland was in the Salmon River Valley and southeastern Idaho. They represent a 'late Plains overlay' of the eastern Oregon Paiute (Murphy & Murphy 1960:p. 293-294). Their influence on the study area was greatest during the white settlement period.

Nez Perce. The Nez Perce probably entered the study area late in the Historic Period.

"The Nez Perce did migrate to the Bitterroot Valley for summer game, but Blackfeet were encroaching even on this territory. The rapidity of this change is startling.

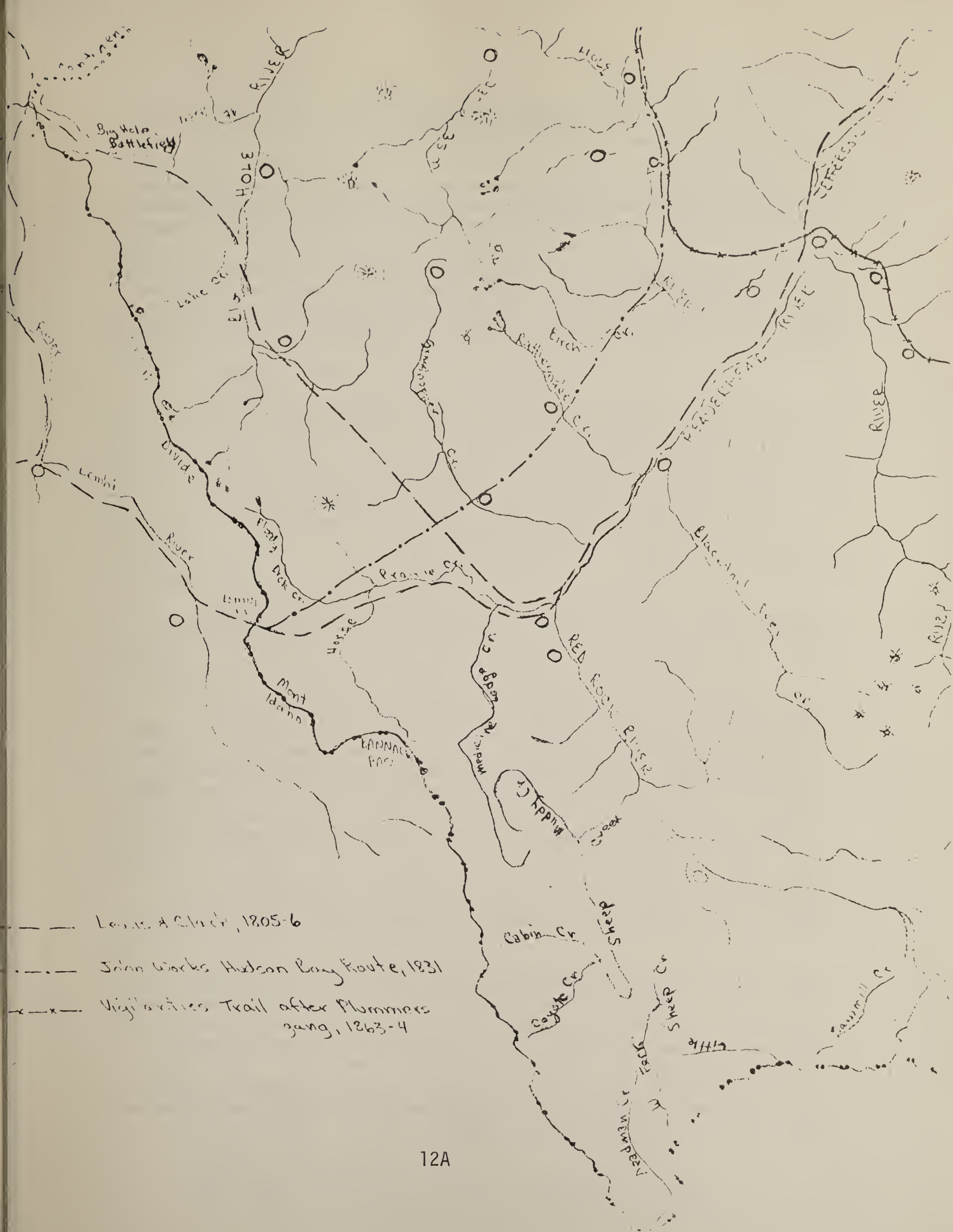
In 1806, Lewis and Clark found them living in large community lodges constructed of heavy timbers and grass mats. Only one small band had occasionally hunted buffalo. Six years later, a large village at the mouth of the Clearwater was using skin tipis and about half the tribe were going to the buffalo country from time to time (Haines 1955:p. 36)."

Haines also indicates that a trail south of the Big Hole and east to Yellowstone Park had been traveled prior to the Nez Perce War of 1877.

Flathead. The influence of the Flathead on the study area is difficult to assess. Colter mentioned their presence in the Three Forks area in 1808, but their displacement to the northwest was almost immediate. Sassman states, however, that "Prior to the coming of the whites, the Blackfeet, Flathead, Snake and Bannock Indians had competed for the Beaverhead as hunting grounds because of the abundance of buffaloes (Sassman 1939:p. 2)."

The treaty of 1855, dealing chiefly with the Blackfoot expansion, succeeded in defining tribal bison zones. The tribes west of the Rockies were to hunt south of the Missouri via a southern trail past Three Forks and over the Bozeman Pass (Haines 1955:p. 127). After the treaty, hostilities between the different factions were somewhat curbed. The influx of white settlement and the decimation of the buffalo radically altered these Plains oriented economics. Simple survival became more of an issue.

Malouf's article (1960:p. 18) shows that the study area was a contested territory in 1855. War parties frequented this area enroute to enemy territory. The westward waves of 'manifest destiny' combined with the supplanted plains tribes forced the remaining bison into alpine retreats as found in the study area. The Shoshoni advance from the south had since waned, but Shoshoni hunting pressure coupled with the exploitation of the fur companies probably eliminated the last bison herds.



'PIONEER' HISTORY

This historical sketch is meant to be a descriptive outline of the events which have shaped Beaverhead County and, in particular, the study area. This should not be construed as an exhaustive survey.

Lewis and Clark. The first account of the study area is recorded in the Journals of Lewis and Clark. Their first objective was to reach the headwaters of the Missouri River in the newly acquired Louisiana Purchase. Besides satisfying President Jefferson's request,

"...it was here that the party left the river and took to land travel; it was here that the people of Sacajawea were met and horses secured for the trip over the mountains; it was here that the ascent of the divide was begun, the crossing of which brought the party to the last half of its journey. It was here in fact that the expedition reached its climax and felt comparatively certain for the first time that it would be able to complete its great task (Garver 1913)."

The course of Lewis and Clark through the study area has been charted in detail. Garver's article from the Dillon Examiner (December 10, 1913) and its subsequent edition by Tash and Davison in 1964 is probably a more accurate account.

The party proceeded up the Beaverhead from Point of Rocks or Beaverhead Rock which now defines Beaverhead County's northern boundary. Sacajawea is said to have identified the rock as a landmark within the Lemhi territory. "They crossed Blacktail Deer Creek and fell in with a 'plain Indian Road which led toward the point where the river enters the mountain' (Garver 1913)." The authenticity of this aboriginal trail is attested not only by the present relief, but by a tepee ring encampment (AR25-05-35), two pictograph sites (AR25-05-25 and AR25-05-27) and a Buffalo Jump (on private holdings). Their trail continued up the Beaverhead until they arrived at the confluence of Red Rock Creek and Horse Prairie Creek (Two Forks). This site has since been inundated by Clark Canyon Reservoir.

Lewis, having advanced from the main party, followed Horse Prairie Creek up Trail Creek and over the Continental Divide via Lemhi Pass. After making contact with the Lemhi, Lewis returned to the main party, then near Two Forks. The canoes were sunk and equipment of questionable utility was hidden in a cache. Horses were acquired and the party proceeded up the same trail and over Lemhi Pass. This leg of the journey began August 10, 1805 (Tash & Davison 1964:p. 4) when they passed Beaverhead Rock and ended August 26, 1805 (Tash & Davison 1964:p. 10) with their entry to Idaho.

On the return trip, Lewis having parted company near the mouth of Lolo Creek, Clark descended the eastfork of the Bitterroot River crossing the Divide at Gibbon Pass on July 6, 1806 (Tash & Davison 1964:p. 11). The north fork of the Big Hole or Trail Creek (a second Trail Creek) was followed for some twenty miles. The party then advanced twenty-five miles to the southeast, fording the Big Hole River. Climbing southward up the valley they arrived at Boiling Springs (now Jackson). The party then headed up Governor Creek, crossing east over Carroll Hill and again east down Grasshopper Creek. Near the present town of Bannack, they veered south until Horse Prairie Creek was reached. Descending to Two Forks, Clark salvaged his cache and canoes from the year before. From Two Forks to Three Forks, the journey was made by water down the Beaverhead and Jefferson Rivers. July 11, 1806, Clark and his flotilla navigated past Beaverhead Rock north of Dillon (Tash & Davison 1964:p. 13).

Spanish. Knowledge of Spanish exploration of the area is based more on rumor than supported fact. 'Jean Batiste Truteau carried on an extensive trading expedition 1794-1796, and his 'Description of the Upper Missouri', has preserved many of the details. Specific evidence of the Spanish reaching Montana by the Missouri before Lewis and Clark is still missing. Another great avenue of approach is from the Southwest. The 'Spanish Diggings' in northern Wyoming and numerous rumors in the southwestern Montana mining region are still unexplained (Toole & Burlingame 1957, Vol. 1:p. 58).

Fur Companies. The next interest group to enter Beaverhead County were the fur trappers. This period of history is better recorded in the events to the north and east of the study area.

In 1808 Manuel Lisa of the Big Horn Post sent John Colter, a member of Lewis and Clark's party, to establish communications with the Blackfoot. Colter, in a series of unsuccessful attempts at negotiation, was forced to withdraw. But with additional assistance, a short-lived post was established in 1810 near Three Forks. Toole and Burlingame mention that Colter's party was once attacked forty miles up the Jefferson River (Toole and Burlingame 1957, Vol. II:p. 167). Beaver traps may have been set in the study area by this time.

By 1824, Alexander Ross, in charge of the Hudson Bay Company, released men (such as John Work) throughout southwest Montana in search of fur. Three Forks was the rendezvous point.

"To win the trade west of the mountains from the Americans the Hudson's Bay Company sent a great expedition under Work to trade on both sides of the Rockies, the party left Fort Vancouver in 1831...

"...they entered the Beaverhead area in November and in December crossed the Lemhi Pass into the Salmon country where the beaver still eluded them. In January, 1832, they came back into the Big Hole country by the Bannack Pass, and hunted down Red Rock Creek and the Beaverhead. The hostile Blackfeet reappeared and the party recrossed the Bannack

Pass and continued westward, reaching Vancouver in July, 1832, with only a small collection of pelts in return for almost a year of danger and hardship (Toole & Burlingame 1957, Vol. 1:p. 84)."

Rival competition evolved in the southwestern fur trade between 1828-32. The Rocky Mountain Fur Company headed by such names as Jim Bridger and Jedediah Smith was pitted against the American Fur Company for the acquisition of pelts. The 'Vandeburgh Massacre' of 1832 in which William Henry Vandeburgh, leader of the American Fur Company, was killed and the reorganization of the Rocky Mountain Fur Company (1834) reduced the hostilities between the groups (Toole & Burlingame 1957, Vol. 11:p. 169).

Pioneer Trails. The next wave of history was induced by optimistic gold seekers and disenchanted Oregon-bound pioneers. These colonists established the first permanent settlements in the study area.

"The main routes of travel from the Oregon Trail in Idaho which fed the settlements in the Bitterroots and the Deer Lodge followed down the Beaverhead and the Jefferson, and crossed the Big Hole (Toole & Burlingame 1957, Vol. 11:p. 170)."

The Gold Creek discovery by James and Granville Stuart in 1858 and the subsequent growth of Deer Lodge was the first proof that placer gold was hidden in profitable amounts in Montana.

Granville Stuart recorded his and his brother's trip of 1857-58 through the study area from the south. They crossed the Divide at Monida Pass and proceeded down Red Rock Creek to the present town of Dell. Here they climbed easterly up Sage Creek and down Blacktail Deer Creek to the present site of Dillon. His journal indicates that other groups were camped in the vicinity. The winter of 1857-58 was spent there (Stuart 1925, Vol. 1:pp. 124-131).

The trail to the Salmon River gold fields was a treacherous one. Raymer described the troubled victims in stating.

"Most of these unfortunates abandoned their wagons and packing a limited amount of goods on their animals proceeded to their original goal. Many others turned back to follow the Snake River Valley, a distance to Walla Walla of 700 miles. A few took the desperate chance of crossing the Rockies thru Lemhi Pass to Deer Lodge, which wound along steep precipices, through narrow canyons and was everywhere beset by hostile Indians. Among the earliest pioneers of this route were F. W. Stapleton, John White /discover of Bannack gold/ and John Allen (Raymer 1930:p. 171)."

The discovery of gold in Nez Perce country in the Clearwater River of Idaho in 1860, excited diehard 49er's and 'johnny-come-lately' Easterners. Even families dissatisfied with the east began the trek. Wagon trains were organized and directed westward.

"Two trains left Minnesota; the James Reed train in quest of /the/ Salmon River and the quasi-military train under Captain James L. Fisk was destined to Walla Walla from Fort Abercrombie to establish a wagon road to Fort Benton and then examine Captain Mullan's military road. Trains coming from the south had the advantages of distance and an early knowledge of the discoveries. One of these, the Jack Russell train which had neared its destination, became hemmed in by the Lemhi Mountains in the Salmon River country. Individual prospectors experienced a similar fate. Unable to take their wagons across the difficult trail, various members dispersed to the near-by regions to prospect, some crossing the Continental Divide into the Beaverhead County (Sassman 1939:p. 2-3)."

Many of these individuals abandoned the main party when Bannack gold was discovered.

Stanley Davison has presented a candid interpretation of the Montana gold rush as opposed to the 'get rich quick' schemes that motivated earlier boom towns. The forces that resulted in the Civil War were coming to a climax and many families were dissatisfied with the unrest of the States. The diseases of malaria and typhoid, particularly in the low land bluegrass states of Kentucky and Tennessee, had reached epidemic proportions. Families felt that westward migration held a greater future for their children and the country. The doctrine of 'manifest destiny' was bolstered by the indefatigable family social unit and their permanent established settlements.

Many of these families were headed to the rich Willamette Valley of the fabled Oregon Territory. However, the Montana gold rush was a convenient stop-over in their three-thousand mile journey. So the pioneer of this period was more sophisticated or "cultured" by Euro-American standards than the ruff and tumble 49er's.

Bannack Gold Trails. The first gold reported in the country is documented first hand by Morley. Sassman states,

"Before the main flood of emigrants from the more distant points arrived, gold was discovered in Beaverhead. (Judge) Mortimer H. Lott and party, from the hemmed-in group on the Salmon, crossed the Big Hole Pass and discovered gold on a small tributary to Ruby Creek flowing into the North Fork of the Big Hole River. This was about a mile from the main divide. The discovery, the first in the county of which there is any record, was made about July 9, 1862.---August 28, when Morley visited this find, there were some thirty miners

making from four to eight dollars per man. These mines were abandoned for the richer diggings on Grasshopper (Sassman 1939:p. 3)."

John White's discovery on Grasshopper Creek was the harbinger of the Montana gold rush.

"In August 1862, the James Reed train arrived, stopped in Beaverhead Valley and scouting members found White's party on the Grasshopper. Later the government train under Captain Fisk arrived at Gold Creek, and hearing of these and the late discoveries, individual members decided to tarry...

"The Gold Creek miners, including the Stuarts, quit their first love for this new El Dorado. Deserters from both the Union and Confederated armies joined the throng. During the winter of '62 and '63, Bannack boasted some four hundred souls and at its peak there were about five thousand along Grasshopper (Sassman 1939:p. 4)."

There were alternate routes in getting to Bannack, depending on where you heard about the Grasshopper 'dust'. The Lemhi Pass route was probably the most arduous, but any trail over the Rockies was difficult. "The first rush of immigration of gold seekers came by the way of Bannack, or Medicine Lodge pass (Metlen 1941:p. 3)." In 1860 James and Granville Stuart crossed Medicine Lodge Pass, down a tributary of Big Sheep and on to the Beaverhead. From Two Forks the Beaverhead Valley was followed out of the study area (Stuart 1925: pp. 153-54 & Metlen 1941:p. 2).

Another route was over Monida Pass, down Red Rock Creek to the Horse Prairie and finally northeast to Bannack. The first leg of this route was followed by the Stuarts in 1857 north as far as Dell (as previously mentioned).

The trail from the northeast into Bannack was less well defined.

"John Bozeman and John Jacobs were sent from Bannack (1862-63) to open a new road between Bannack and some convenient point on the Platte by way of the Gallatin Valley. The country was handicapped because there was no direct route to it. One was over the Oregon Trail and the steamboat arrivals at Fort Benton travelled part of the Mullan road (Sassman 1939:p. 4)."

Stage Service. With the discovery of gold in Alder Gulch to the east, additional trails were established. Stage service became desirable between the two population centers as well as to points outside Montana. Travelers risked many dangers with few accommodations.

The roads were raided by 'Indians' and highwaymen and often the stage driver was drunk and wreckless. In the beginning, way stations were few and far between serving poor food and supplying no accommodations. The stage line was designed for gold transport with passengers taking a back seat to the strong box.

Ben Hollady's Overland Stage Line provided triweekly coaches between Virginia City and Bannack. Additional service provided triweekly coaches between Great Salt Lake and Walla Walla via Boise City and West Bannack, as well as triweekly coaches between Great Salt Lake City, and Virginia City, Montana via Bannack City. These trails formed the network of passenger, freight and U. S. Mail delivery. "Not long after the first stage line reached Montana, all of the more important mining camps were connected by stage routes (Raymer 1930, Vol. 1:p. 203)." Metlen's article offers a more detailed sketch of these lesser stage routes (Metlen 1941).

Law and Order. The 'stick-up' was a common occurrence between 1862-63. Henry Plummer organized one of the most notorious gangs of toughs in western history. Having tactifully been elected sheriff of the citizens of Bannack, Plummer was able to obtain information on otherwise confidential gold shipments. Prior to Plummer and his associates untimely demise, more than a hundred individuals are believed to have been murdered by them.

One of the locations at which the 'road agents' were known to strike was on the Bannack-Salt Lake stage line, three miles north/northeast of Bannack. It was locally known as Road Agent Rock; and there was a small cabin located nearby.

"Situated a few miles out of Bannack on the Bannack-Salt Lake Stage Road, this cabin was a rendezvous and relay station for the Plummer gang. Here these gentlemen could get a fresh horse or get their second wind or maybe another gun, or something to eat.

"This place was one of many hideouts and a starting point for much of their deviltry. One of the main features of these way stations was that good horses always were available for a quick getaway (Cole 1966: p. 54)."

Protection from the road agents and other rogues was difficult for the family unit transplanted in a hostile environment. The Oregon Territory included a much larger area than could be effectively governed. On March 3, 1863 the Territory of Idaho was created, in part to organize local government in such areas as Bannack. Chief Justice Sidney Edgerton was sent to Bannack, arriving in September of 1863. His authority, however, was limited to an advisory position in the absence of effective law enforcement.

Under these conditions, the only real law was that imposed by the miners themselves. When the road agents culminated their sanguine deeds in the slaying of an orphaned stable boy in Virginia City, the 'Vigilantes' took matters into their own hands. After the road agents had been hung or chased out of the area, the citizens of southwestern Montana were anxious to have governmental order. Edgerton obtained a charter for the formation of the Territory of Montana on May 26, 1864, and Bannack became the first Territorial Capitol.

Corinne Traffic. By 1869, Corinne, Utah on the Union Pacific Transcontinental Railroad had become a center for stage and freight exchange north to Montana. "Corinne became the terminus of a large amount of freight sent by Railroad and destined for the Montana mining camps, and was a favorite point of departure for passengers who were going to the mines (Burlingame 1942:p. 136)."

The Medicine Lodge Pass trail accepted Corrine freight traffic, soon after Bannack established itself. The Main Overland North continued to extend service from Williams Junction (the easterly turning point for Virginia City traffic departing from Corinne), down the Red Rock to Shineberger's Station (Two Forks). Service was available west to Bannack or north to Virginia City or Helena from this Station.

Other branch lines ran from Bannack to Salmon City via Jeff Davis Gulch and over Bannock Pass. "The stage station was established along this line by Gilmore and Salisburg and other stage companies who operated 1867-1880... (Metlen 1941:p. 7)."

Early Mining. After Bannack, other small towns began to spring up along the banks of the Grasshopper.

"Below Bannack, three hamlets sprang up. Marysville (Cavandish as called by some), a mile below, was named after Mrs. Mary Wadams, the first woman there. Centerville, the location of the stamp mills, came next and then some three or four miles below Bannack was located Jerusalem which was in White's district. The records mention these; they are shown by W. W. DeLacy's first official map of the Territory, of Montana and the three are retained by the memories of the old timers (Sassman 1939:p. 7)."

Placer claims were extended up the banks of the Grasshopper and hillside bars. In order to work these claims, water had to be diverted into the area.

"Placer mining began in earnest when ditches were built to work the bars because bed rock along the creek was too deep for primitive mining... Ditches increased in size and length when hydraulic mining was put into operation. The first ditch of the Bannack Mining and Ditch Company was put into

operation in 1863 solely for the purpose of selling water to the miners. The price of seventy-five cents per miners' inch tended to discourage the miners. The fifteen-mile ditch was built at an outlay of \$15,000. F. L. Graves, A. F. (Gus) Graeter and others were associated with the company (Sassman 1939:p. 8)."

Another ditch was constructed from Taylor Creek to the north Bannack placers in 1867. It was ten miles in length. White's Bar received its water from the Grasshopper, but a ditch was necessary crossing for three and half miles below Bannack. "The cost was about \$25,000. The Canyon ditch /yet another ditch/ was built at a cost of \$17,000. (Sassman 1939:p. 8)."

The Miners had a number of ingenious methods for extracting the gold. The pick, shovel and pan were essentials, but the sluice box and its subsequent modifications allowed one man the work of three. 'Whip-sawed lumber' cut from the few trees found in the immediate vicinity supplied the first building materials for the sluice box. Bannack's first sawmill was built in December 1862. Lumber brought \$250 per 1000 ft. (Toole, n.d. :p. 4).

The Dakota Claim of November 1862 was the first quartz mining lode in Bannack as well as Montana. In the beginning, ore was crushed on an arrastras (a crude stone wheel and grinding stone) or on other crude mills. A stamp mill replaced these methods and increased production from \$10 to \$20 a day to "a capacity of two and one-half cords per week with values recovered at \$300-\$2000 per cord (Sassman 1939:p. 9)." By 1870 four quartz mills were in operation on the Grasshopper.

Sassman gives an idea of the amount of gold that was extracted from Grasshopper Creek. "Within the first two years of discovery, \$600,000 was taken out of the placers. From the total placers and lode production on the Grasshopper, it has been estimated from \$2,500,000 to \$30,000,000 for up to a few years ago (Sassman 1939:p. 5-6)."

The population pressure on the Grasshopper forced some gold prospectors into staking a claim in Colorado Gulch. This is a tributary of Horse Prairie Creek, southwest of Bannack, in rather inhospitable country. The claim was filed in July 1863 on Solomon's Bar. The general area was later referred to as the "Prospect District". "At the first miner's meeting of Prospect district, A. Graham was elected chairman. R. R. Donsett was then elected president and H. Thompson was chosen recorder. Others to become recorder were Vital Jarrot and W. A. Clark. (Sassman 1939:p. 11)." This was the same William A. Clark of "Copper King" fame.

Chinese. The Chinese are a neglected chapter in southwestern mining history. Frank Eliel has written an account of Beaverhead history and among the antedotes was found this paragraph, "A Chinese of giant proportions ran "The Diggins" at China Town, just south of the Donovan Ranch on Horse Prairie. There the Chinese took out some thirty millions of dollars in gold at prices of \$18.00 or less an ounce (Eliel 1965:p. 77)." Sassman writes, "About 1872, the Yearians leased their claims to Boise Sam and Hon Wan Tan, each at the head of a company. The Chinamen operated their claims with hydraulics and it is stated that they cleaned up \$36,000 in six weeks. It was through these operations that the "China Diggings" and "Chinatown" were established--there being about sixty of the Orientals there at one time (1939:p. 11)." This location was just above Jeff Davis Gulch, on Colorado Creek.

Silver. Silver mining and processing spurred the development of boom towns to the north of Bannack. Argenta, formerly named Montana, was chartered in January 1865. The Blue Wing District, near Argenta, provided rich ore which yielded profits even after it was shipped to smelters in Swansea, Wales. Smelters were built near Argenta by 1866.

"Nearly contemporary with the discoveries, smelters were built to extract the silver as distances were too great to profitably haul the ore to reduction works. Argenta can rightfully claim the honor of being Montana's cradle of the smelting industry. These smelters were four in number and all built within a space of a few years (Sassman 1939:p. 13)."

The Trappers Creek area, west of the present town of Melrose, provided quantities of silver.

"The mines of the Bryant Mining District, which is located on Lion Mountain west of Melrose, undoubtedly have the distinction of being Beaverhead County's largest producers over the longest consecutive period. The discovery of the area was due to the prospecting activities in the Vipond district a few miles to the north where William Vipond first discovered the Gray Jockey, January 9, 1869. It was not until August 15, 1873, that P. J. Grotevant, J. A. Bryant, D. R. Parker and others located the Rocky Mountain Trapper Lode, locally known as the Trapper. Silver locations being much in demand, prospectors flocked to the new discoveries...The town of Trapper sprung into existence, soon to become a ghost town with the increased activities on Lion Mountain and the center of population shifted to Lion city. (Sassman 1939:p. 15)."

The exceedingly rich Hecla Lode was filed in September 1873. Noah Armstrong and Benjamin S. Harvey formed the Hecla Consolidated Mining Company and the town of Hecla was born. A smelter was built at the crossing of Trapper Creek and the main stage route. Glendale grew around the smelter, but the smelter was lost to fire in 1877. "The aggregate product of the mines in 1878 amounted to \$785,000, while the cost of improvements made or begun during that year by the Hecla Co. amounted to about \$400,000 (Warner 1885:p. 482)." Dependant on the Hecla Consolidated Mining Company, Glendale continued to thrive. By 1881 Glendale had reached a peak population of 1500. (Sassman 1939:p. 16).

Henry Knippenberg became general manager of the Hecla Consolidated in 1881. He inherited a debt of \$77,785 when he stepped into Glendale in the same year. Under his sagacious management, however, the company netted \$237,730 in the first eight month period and continually recorded profits for the next twenty-one years. In 1904 the company went defunct due to internal management problems and faulting mines (Sassman 1939:p. 16-17).

Dredging. The 1895 dredging operation was begun in Bannack. The "Fielding L. Graves" bucket-lift dredge was the first in the United States. It was electrically driven by the power generated from the Grasshopper. Other gold dredging operations were conducted along the Grasshopper, but, by 1904, it was no longer profitable.

Railroad. The railroad provided the Southwest with efficient delivery of freight, a quality lacking in the horse- or ox-drawn freight trains and the stagecoach. A degree of respectability was acquired by a town, when reliable freight service arrived and departed regularly. A small tourist economy was also strengthened. (see Dillon)

The Utah and Northern Railroad was racing the Northern Pacific to complete track in the early 1880's. Montana needed a railroad which would provide lower freight rates than those of the wagon trains, but was reluctant to subsidize one. Consequently, when the Utah and Northern reached the Montana border they continued to lay track over Monida Pass, even though the legislative railroad bills had been defeated. Ten miles of Beaverhead County were crossed in 1879, one hundred-ten miles were added in 1880. By December 1881, Silver Bow Junction seven miles from Butte was reached. "As soon as the Utah and Northern reached Montana, it began an extensive campaign to advertise the natural resources of the Territory (Hamilton 1957: p. 376)." Noyes has written an interesting account of the chain of events which diverted the railroad from its original Fort Benton destination. The interests of the "Copper Kings" influenced its course as it approached Butte (1925:p. 3).

Dillon. The town of Dillon had its beginnings with such wanderers as the Stuart Brothers as early as 1857 (see Pioneer Trails). Before Dillon became an incorporated town, ranching and farming

interests accepted the Dillon area as a center of commerce. But it was not until the Railroad established Dillon as a terminus town in 1880 that the town came into its own right. Freight outfits such as Belden and Peters, the Diamond R. and Ford and McConnell carried freight destined for Butte, Helena, Missoula and Bozeman.

The townsite for Dillon was chosen by a group of businessmen interested in securing land for the railroad right-of-way.

"Richard Deacon resisted the railroad when an attempt was made to cross his ranch. To overcome this obstacle, a group of enterprising businessmen purchased the lands of Richard Deacon and gave the Railroad Company the right-of-way. It was a prompt and satisfactory manner of handling a difficult situation. It also led to the formation of a townsite company and the town of Dillon began its interesting history.

"This land was purchased Sept. 4, 1880, from Deacon, by a group of merchants headed by Howard Sebree, for the sum of \$10,500. There were 480 acres in the piece of land purchased (Eliel 1925:pp. 13-14)."

In 1884, Dillon was incorporated and named after Sidney Dillon the president of the Union Pacific. The Union Pacific had since acquired the Northern and Utah.

Later Railroads. Two branch railroad lines provided service for the mining towns to the west. Sassman in passing mentions a "38-mile Montana Southern Railroad with its line from Divide up the Big Hole River and Wise River to Coolidge at the mines (1939:p. 19)." This was the rail access to the Elkhorn Mining District, a more recent mining endeavor.

A narrow gauge railroad was built from Armstead (Two Forks) to Salmon, Idaho via Bannock Pass and the old stage and freight trail. The Gilmore and Pittsburg Railroad is mentioned as operable in 1921 by Stout (1921:p. 668). Garver refers to its presence as early as late 1913 (Garver 1913). The railroad was destroyed in 1940 as stated by Tash and Davison (1964:p. 3). Its length was thirty-seven miles (Sanders 1913:p. 312).

Ranching. As has been the case with much of Montana's later economic development, Beaverhead County was also the origin of cattle and sheep ranching for the state.

The cattle industry began when traders along the Oregon Trail purchased worn-out cattle from the emigrants and drove them into the Beaverhead and Ruby Valleys. Here they were fattened and later traded back or resold to the Oregon Trail Pioneers.

"In the fall of 1864, Wm. C. Orr, of the firm of Poindexter and Orr drove a herd of cattle into the Beaverhead Valley from California, which marked the

beginning of this firm's cattle business in Montana. Poindexter and Orr continued to bring in cattle to supply the butcher shops in the mining camps, and their business grew until they were among the largest owners of livestock in the Territory (Hamilton 1957: p. 385)."

By the 1870's, ranging cattle on a large scale had become a problem. Cattle were not free to graze over the entire Beaverhead because of the numerous homesteads springing up. Many ranches were relocated to the eastern plains.

The sheep industry of Montana began with a large flock drive from Oregon by John Selway, into the Beaverhead Valley in 1869. In the following year Poindexter and Orr brought in a sizeable flock from California.

"There was but little demand for mutton in Montana and the sheepman gave their attention to wool production (Hamilton 1957: p. 408)." The emphasis on sheep herding in the State was later concentrated in north central Montana.

Agriculture. Agriculture also has deep roots in the Beaverhead Valley. "Agricultural settlement sprang up at a number of places in the western part of Montana, near the mines...Two men, Barrett and Steinberger who settled on Horse Prairie in 1862, are said to have been the first farmers in Beaverhead County (Abbot 1964:p. 381)."

Nez Perce War. The concluding chapter of this narrative will concern the Nez Perce War and their flight through the study area. Its position in the narrative is to emphasize the effect of white settlement on the native american.

At dawn, August 9, 1877, Colonel John Gibbon led his troops in a surprise attack upon the Big Hole encampment of the fleeing Nez Perce. The retaliation by the Nez Perce, however, forced the government troops to withdraw. The losses suffered by both sides were severe, and the Nez Perce made a hasty retreat. "Looking Glass and Five Wounds wanted to go south of the Bitterroot, through the Ross Hole country, and on the headwaters of the Jefferson, Then, instead of turning east to Three Forks and Bozeman on the old trail, they should make a big swing to the south, following the great arc of the Continental Divide to Yellowstone National Park (Haines 1955:pp. 249-50)." In Yellowstone they would find support from the Montana Crow, or so they hoped.

This route was altered and a premature southward diversion brought the group through the heart of the study area. "At the same time, the Nez Perce attitude toward all whites underwent a marked change. No longer did they look on Howard and his men as their only enemies (Haines 1955:p. 258)."

"The route followed by the pursued and the pursurers for the next several hundred miles--until they emerged from the eastern edge of the Rocky Mountains--was determined almost entirely by the nature and location of mountain ranges, passes, valleys, and their forests and prairie (Brown 1967:p. 275)." The exodus moved over to the head of Bloody Dick Creek from the Big Hole, following the valley and later Trail Creek to Horse Prairie Creek. Here, four whites lost their lives at W. L. Montague and Daniel H. Winters' estate. Montague was one of the victims.

"When the Nez Perce started their move up the Bitterroot Valley, ranchers on Horse Prairie sent their families into Bannack, and many stopped haying; women and children from Maryville and Argenta took refuge in a mining tunnel and the people in Beaverhead Valley took refuge at a ranch having numerous log corrals and buildings (Brown 1967:pp. 272-73)."

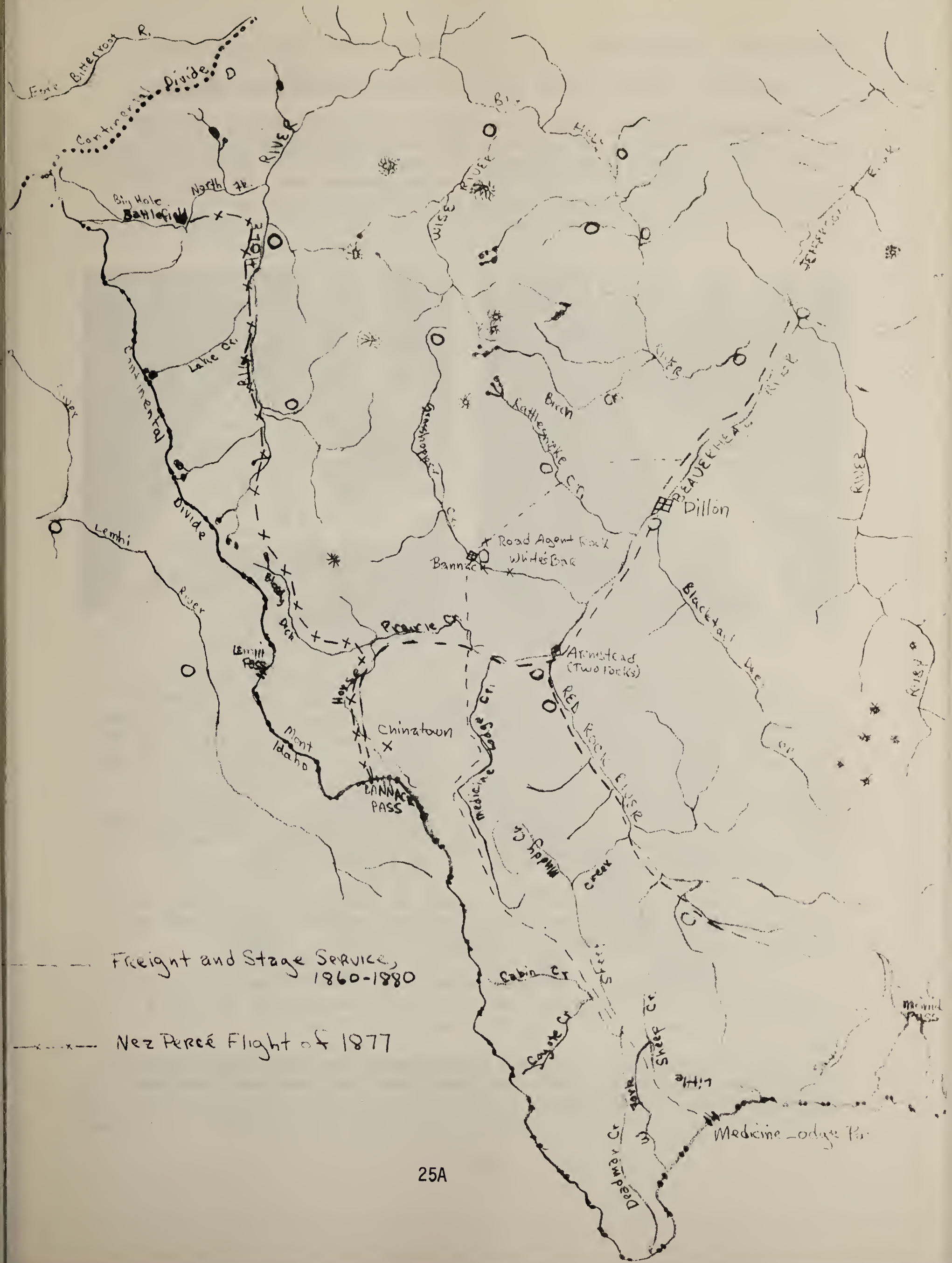
"The women and children of Horse Prairie, Bannack and vicinity were already barricaded in the two-story courthouse in Bannack (Brown 1967:p. 274)."

From Horse Prairie Creek, the Nez Perce crossed southwest out of the study area via Bannock Pass. General Oliver Howard and his troops were in pursuit. After a stay in Bannack (which nearly resulted in a crossing at Lemhi Pass), they attempted to intercept the Nez Perce. Howard followed Horse Prairie Creek to Red Rock Creek and southeast out of the study area. His troops were unable to intercept the elusive Nez Perce.

Tendoy. Chief Tendoy, a representative of the Lemhi of the Lemhi Reservation in Idaho, played a role in keeping his people in peace during the ordeal. The Lemhi Reservation is in close proximity to the study area.

A year later in 1878, Tendoy was again tested by the Bannock war.

"Throughout the Bannock War, the Lemhi Indians had remained peaceful and friendly to the whites. The citizens of Idaho had Chief Tendoy to thank for the situation, because only his control prevented many of the Bannock members of his tribe from joining their warring kin (Madsen 1958:p. 222)."



Wickiup site (AR25-05-3)

Location. T7S R6W on Mine Gulch, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. "Wickiup is located in the bottom of a draw under tall Douglas Fir trees. The draw is narrow and has very steep mountain sides. The draw runs east and west. The mountain side to the north (with a south-facing slope) is covered with native grasses and very scattered Douglas Fir trees. The mountain side to the south (with a north-facing slope) is covered with a good stand of Douglas Fir trees (Roswurm, 1967)."



This is a conical lodge of teepee form. It lies fifty feet from a small tributary stream. Its inverted V-shaped entrance faces the north and the stream. Its diameter is twelve feet at floor level, and its interior height is six feet. The proximity of the stream and the condition of the siding imply that the structure has settled considerably. The outside height is thirteen feet, i.e. the vertical height of the longest pole. Twenty-five interlocking poles support, and all but make up, the structure. Bark and log peeling help close out the daylight. Originally, the lodge would have been quite substantial. Potting, from within and without, has destroyed any scientific value.

Charred wood and charcoal are evident in backdirt piles. There may be some evidence for a bark floor in the past. Rodent activity and pot-hunting are working against this hypothesis, however.

Cultural affiliation. Shoshones built structures like this up until a hundred years ago. Blackfoot and Crow were also familiar with this type of structure.

Area of occupation. A battle pit or eagle trap rests above the site (AR25-05-3). Another wickiup site, long since destroyed, may have been situated 100 feet to the west.

Present condition. Fair to Good.

Land ownership status. BLM

Informants and references. Conner. "The Russian Creek Wickiup Site." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 6, no. 1 (1966), pp. 9-12.

Joyes. "The Evans Wickiup Site." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 9, no. 2 (1968), pp. 1-11.

Kidwell. "Conical Timbered Lodge on the Northwestern Plains." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 10, no. 4 (1969), pp. 1-49.

Claude Roswurm's archeological site inventory of 1967.

Cave wickiup site (AR25-05-9)

Location. T15S R10W on Caboose Canyon, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. "This cave is half-way up a very steep north-facing mountain side. There is some slide-rock below the cave and it is quite well hidden from view by trees growing on the slope. This site consists of a large cave which shows evidence of habitation. Within this cave there is a well preserved wickiup. There has been quite a bit of excavation. This has apparently been done by local amateurs and has probably destroyed much valuable material (Roswurm, 1967)."



Cave Wickiup Site (AR25-05-9)

This conical lodge is constructed of fifteen wooden poles interlocking at the apex of a tepee form. The diameter at floor level is sixteen feet. The interior height is eight feet, while the outside height is eleven feet. There is no evidence for a bark floor covering or a hearth. The entrance

to the shelter is from the north/northwest. A similar opening is on the north/northeast side of the wickiup, but it appears to be the work of vandals. Dry-rock masonry breastwork is still evident on the north side, stacked two and a half feet high for a short segment. On the northwest side are preserved short pieces of wood, placed on end against the tepee form. Evergreen boughs, with needles still attached, lie perpendicular over the siding. The complete structure is dependent on two large poles. One has a forked end, into which the other longer pole fits. All other poles lean against these two.



Cave Wickiup Site (AR25-05-9)

The mouth of the cave faces north, but the view overlooking the stream is obscured by the tree cover. Because of its inaccessible nature, lack of water, and the poor view afforded, the site may have served a ceremonial function. An eagle was observed, but no traps were located.

Cultural affiliation. Shoshone built structures like this up until a hundred years ago. Blackfeet and Crow were also familiar with this type of structure.

Area of occupation. One thousand square feet.

Present condition. Fair to Good.

Land ownership status. BLM

Informants and references. Conner. "The Russian Creek Wickiup Site." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 6, no. 1 (1966), pp. 9-12.

Joyes. "The Evans Wickiup Site." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 9, no. 2 (1968), pp. 1-11.

Kidwell. "Conical Timbered Lodge on the Northwestern Plains." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 10, no. 4 (1969), pp. 1-49.

Claude Roswurm's archeological site inventory of 1967.

Camp and quarry site (AR25-10-1)

Location. T10S R14S on Everson Creek, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. This site is situated on the east slope of a hillock, well below a grove of trees and lesser vegetation. A spring rises from the site creating a marsh surrounded by lush grasses. There are few flat locations for a camp. From the upper reaches of the hillock the view southeast is open, looking toward the Tendoy Mountains.

There is high quality chert and chalcedony located 150 feet up from the grassy clearing within the timbered thicket. This material is found near the upper edge of the tree cover, where little vegetation can grow because of the steepness of the terrain and the light-absorbing forest canopy. Only a little of this material is present and no chips are visible (two problematic cores are reported). This material seems to lie near the run-off lanes.

At lower levels the raw material is more abundant, especially near run-off lanes. Flakes are fairly common in the spring creek below the site. Few flakes are noticeable within the grassy area.

This site was probably used as a quarry site when alien bands were occupying quarry site (AR25-05-10-6). Raw material was not abundant here, but was apparently exposed by erosion in worthwhile amounts annually. Raw material was probably collected from above the timber line and shaped into workable blanks, as implied by the two cores. The fine retouching of blades occurred later below the timber line near the spring.

Mosquitoes and heavy snows probably made this location an infrequently used camp site.

Cultural affiliation. Unknown.

Area of occupation. Archeological District (AR25-05-10).

Present condition. Good.

Land ownership status. BLM

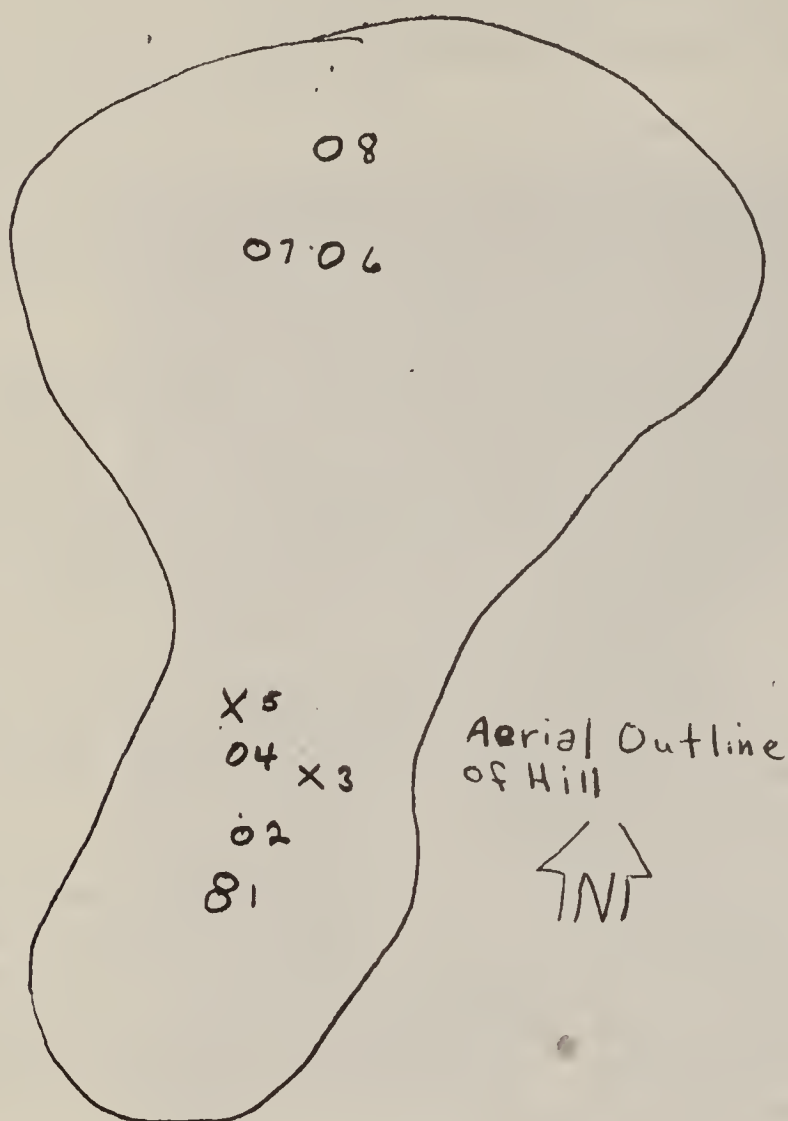
Informants and references. Ed Hastings, Jay Rice, Don Wilson.

Stone clusters or grave sites (AR25-05-10-2A)

Location. T10S R14S on Everson Creek, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. These features rest along the crest of a large, barren hill. They may represent an aboriginal cemetery or they may be only the collapsed ruin of stone trail markers.

The depressed center area of many of these stone clusters implies that a soft fill may have been added after a secondary burial had been performed. The north/south orientation of many of these clusters may have ritual significance associated with the afterlife.



Feature 1 - To the far south of the hill, near the horn of the saddle, are two rings of rock, side by side (north/south). Both are four feet in diameter and nearly a foot high. Both have a shallow depression near their centers in spite of cobbles placed there. This may lend credence to the idea that these are graves, because the soft fill added after the bones were interred would tend to subside over time. These particular rings may only represent one large cluster oriented north/south.

Feature 2 - One hundred feet above and north of Feature 1 and on the horn of the saddle (highest elevation) is a cluster of stones with a depressed center. Its dimensions are smaller than those of Feature 1.

Feature 3 - Northeast of Feature 2 and due east of Feature 4 is a stone pile. It has no depression and may be an aboriginal bench mark or an undisturbed grave.

Feature 4 - This is a small cluster of stones with a discernable crater within it. It is three feet long and one and a half feet wide. Rumor has it that a large stone served as a head stone on this problematic grave.

Feature 5 - This is a stone pile five feet in diameter and one foot high. This may be a stone area marker used by aboriginal man or an undisturbed grave.

Feature 6 - To the north, on the cantle of the saddle, is an oval shaped ring of stones with a depressed center. It is seven feet long and four feet wide and oriented with its long axis north/south. It is in terrible condition.

Feature 7 - To the west of Feature 6 is another problematic grave site. It has similar dimensions to Feature 6, except that it lacks the characteristic depression. It is in poor condition.

Feature 8 - To the far north of Feature 6 is a large ring of stones surround-

ing only a slightly smaller depression. It is in poor condition.

Cultural affiliation. Unknown; however, lichen growth would indicate some antiquity.

Area of occupation. Archeological District (AR25-05-10).

Present condition. Fair.

Land ownership status. BLM

Informants and references. Brumley. "The Lost River Burial." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 7, no. 4 (1966), pp. 1-13.

Jenni. "Sterile Burial on Red Mountain Ridge." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 5, no. 2 (1963), pp. 17-18.

Malouf. "Stone Piles." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 3, no. 4 (1961), pp. 1-5.

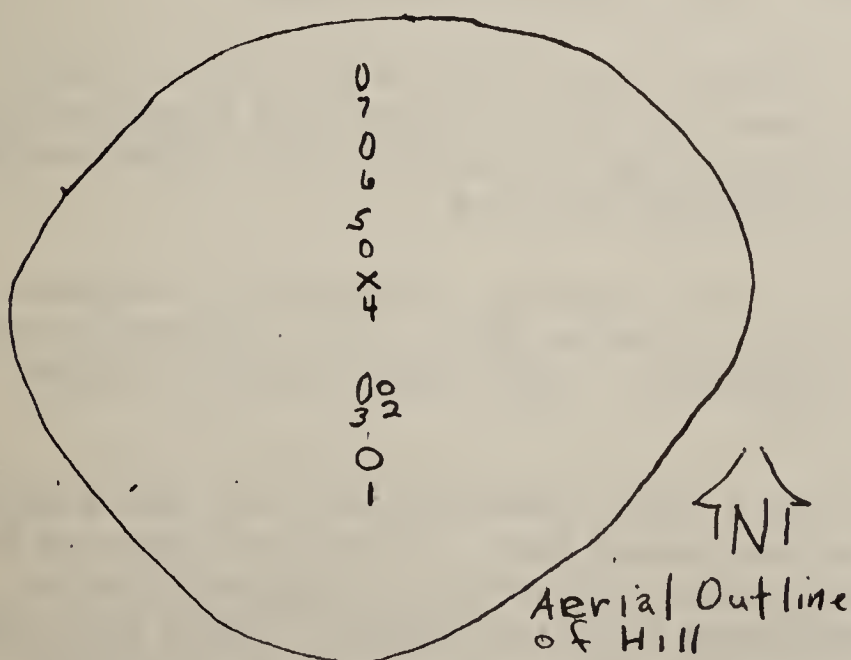
Roberto Costelles, Ed Hastings.

Stone clusters or grave sites (AR25-05-10-2B)

Location. T10S R14W on Everson Creek, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. This may represent an aboriginal cemetery or it may be only the collapsed ruin of stone trail markers. The site lies on top of a large hill.

The depressed center area of many of these stone clusters implies that a soft fill may have been added after a secondary burial had been performed. The north/south orientation of many of these clusters may have ritual significance. The rich vegetal cover over Feature 1 may indicate the decay of organic material below.



Feature 1 - A rock cluster without a depressed center is located to the south of the hillock. A richer vegetal cover is noted from within the center of the cluster.

Feature 2 - A small cluster of stones with a slight depression within its center lies thirty feet to the northeast of Feature 1.

Feature 3 - An oval shaped cluster of stones is located two feet west of Feature 2. It is seven feet by three feet and oriented with its long axis north/south. Many of the stones are very large.

Feature 4 - One hundred fifty yards to the north of Feature 3 is a large stone

cairn. It is seven feet by five feet at its base and oriented with its long axis north/south. It is one foot high. As in Feature 3, many large stones make up this cairn.

Feature 5 - Thirty yards north of Feature 4 is a small undefined cluster of stones.

Feature 6 - One hundred-fifty yards north of Feature 5 is a huge cluster of stones. It was again oriented north/south with an oval shape. It measured six feet long by three feet wide by one and a half feet high. A large stone at the north end of the cluster is rumored to be the head stone.

Feature 7 - One hundred yards north of Feature 6 is a circular cairn with a central depression. Its dimensions are similar to those of Feature 6.

Cultural affiliation. Unknown.

Area of occupation. Archeological District (AR25-05-10).

Present condition. Fair.

Land ownership status. Private.

Informants and references. Brumley. "The Lost River Burial." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 7, no. 4 (1966), pp. 1-13.

Jenni. "Sterile Burial on Red Mountain Ridge." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 5, no. 2 (1963), pp. 17-18.

Malouf. "Stone Piles." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 3, no. 4 (1961), pp. 1-5.

Jay Rice.

Tool production site (AR25-05-10-3)

Location. T11S R14W on Everson Creek, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. There is a ridge to the north and a flat to the south and west of the creek. The creek probably meanders and inundates this site area periodically. Another ridge to the south and west flanks the creek. A quarry site lies on this ridge just above the site.

This area was no doubt used as a tool flaking and refining station. Many flakes lie in the creek and on the adjacent flat. One bifacially worked chalcedony blade was collected. Dimensions: thin cross section, six cm long and three cm wide (AR25-05-10-3A).

Two hundred feet downstream from a fence dividing the flat was a metapodial of a bovine protruding from the stream bank. There was evidence that the complete skeleton lay ten inches below the ground. (The profile revealed a rich organic top soil associated with the bones). Above and below this find are numerous flakes, however, the flakes deposited on top are probably a function of stream deposition. These bones probably represent nothing more than an ailing cow, twenty or thirty years ago.



Cultural affiliation. Unknown, possibly very old.

Area of occupation. Archeological District (AR25-05-10).

Present condition. Excellent.

Land ownership status. BLM and Private.

Informants and references. Roberto Costelles, Don Wilson.

Occupational area site (AR25-05-10-4)

Location. T11S R14W on Everson Creek, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. One hundred yards south of the creek, up a shallow draw, is an outwashed creek bank exposing seven feet of vertical stratigraphy (a likely spot to excavate). Five feet of friable, incongruous brown top soil overlies everything. It is profusely littered with flakes. Near the bottom of this layer, but still within the layer, is a thin, dark-red lense which enters the profile sporadically. A clay or kaolinite layer is also apparent at this depth. It is intruded by the red lense with the brown top soil still persisting (the brown top soil probably appears at this level because of erosional forces). Below this, lies a darker brown soil (this may again be brown top soil darkened by moisture at this level). The lowest reaches of the profile (the bottom two feet) expose a white clay matrix with small stones intermixed.

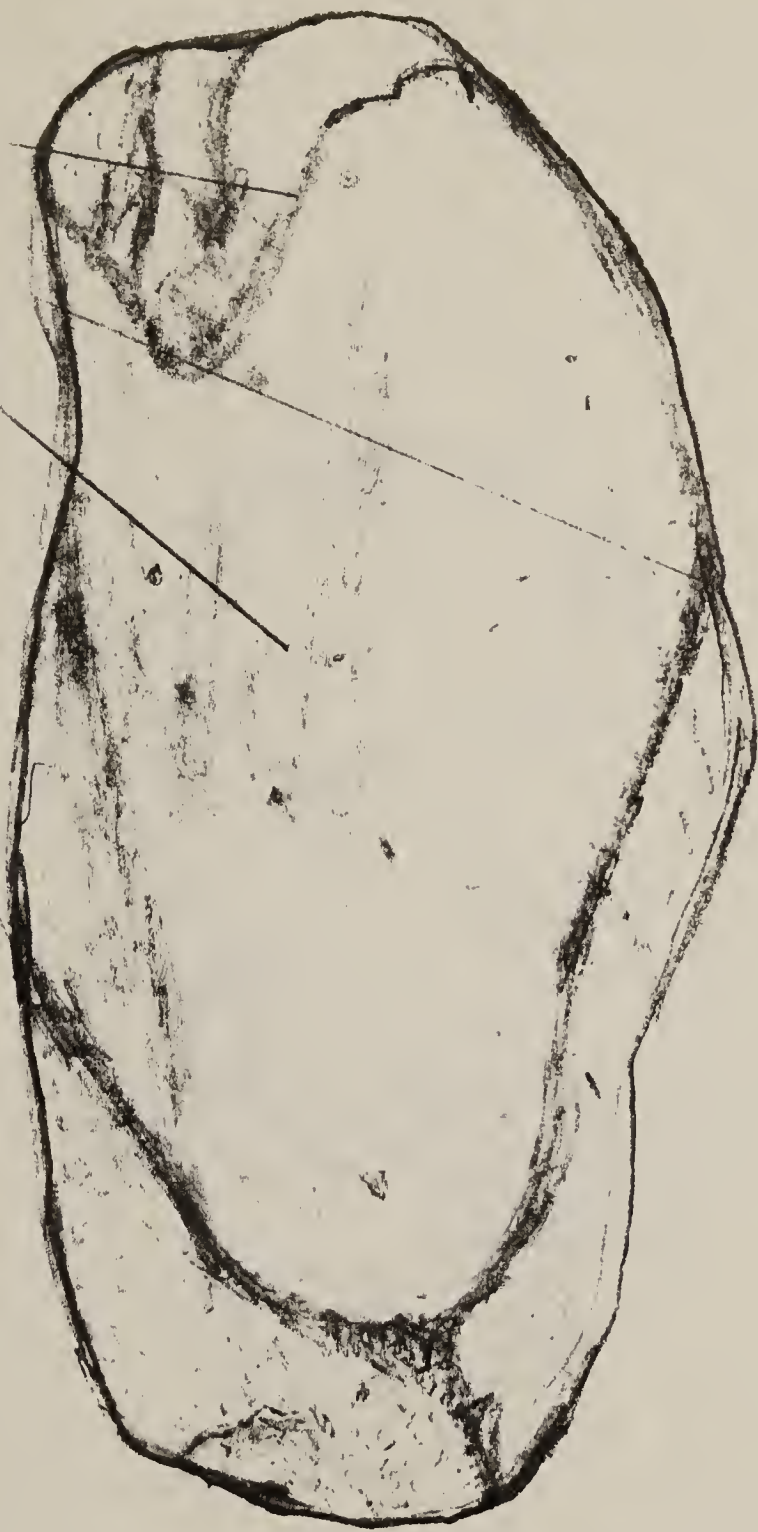
Flakes may lie within the red lense and the white layer, however, none were found in situ. This white clay layer may be caliche or an Altithermal indicator. The profile wall needs to be straightened and re-evaluated.

Within the same draw and 400 feet south from the creek was found a fine diorite flake knife. It may be quite old, as a crude-looking chalcedony ovoid hand axe was also exposed by erosional forces near it.

The diorite knife is thin in cross section, eleven cm long and five cm wide. It is worked more on the dorsal surface than the ventral with pressure flaking having been executed. Some large flakes have been removed, however. The hand axe appears to be a core tool. Percussion flakes were taken off this piece with little evidence for secondary pressure flaking. It may only be a discarded blank as exemplified by the hinging of flake scars. It is two cm in cross section, ten and a half cm long and eight cm wide (AR25-05-10-4B).

A hundred feet below the area in which the knives were found a basalt mano pestle grinding tool was spotted. It is probably very old and peculiar for three reasons: (1) It has a red stain of ochre (hematite). Its proximity to the red lense noted in the stratigraphic cut implies that this was the tool used to grind and mix the paint. (2) It has two smoothly ground opposing sides with faceted edges. The implication would be that the tool was used to grind vegetal foods. Mulloy mentions a mano-like stone with one edge ground smooth having been used in the hide tanning process during the Late Middle Prehistoric Period (Mulloy, p. 209). (3) It has two very battered ends. This may be due to the crushing of seed and root crops

reddish pigment



Grinding tool (AR25-05-10-4A)



Knife (AR25-05-10-4B)



Hand ax (AR25-05-16-4B)

and/or ochre or it was used as a hammerstone. A quarry site lies 200 yards away. Stones dimensions: Cross section at butt - six cm; cross section at tip - three cm; length - fourteen cm; width - seven cm (AR25-05-10-4A).

*This is supported by the battered ends of the tool. (Another interpretation might be that this stone was originally deposited in the red layer and stained over time).

Cultural affiliation. Unknown, possibly very old.

Area of occupation. Archeological District (AR25-05-10).

Present condition. Excellent.

Land ownership status. BLM

Informants and references. Loendorf. "Stone Knives in Montana." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 5, no. 4 (1965), pp. 1-10.

Malouf. "Pestles." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 4, no. 4 (1962), pp. 3-6.

Mulloy. "A Preliminary Historical Outline for the Northwestern Plains." University of Wyoming Publications (1958).

Don Wilson.

Occupational area site (AR25-05-10-5)

Location. T11S R14W on Everson Creek, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. Many flakes have washed down from the south ridge into this draw. The greatest concentration of flake debris is near the stream. An obsidian flake, unlike that found at Obsidian Cliff, Yellowstone Park, was collected. Don Wilson and Jack McIntosh have heard reports of an obsidian flow in the Centennial Mountains to the southeast of here, which may be its source. However, as Arthur states, "The only known deposits of obsidian in Montana occur in Yellowstone Park (Arthur, p. 58)."

Tool production is implied.

Cultural affiliation. Unknown, but presumed ancient.

Area of occupation. Archeological District (AR25-05-10).

Present condition. Good.

Land ownership status. BLM

Informants and references. Arthur. "The Northwestern Plains: A Symposium." Occasional Paper, ed. by Warren W. Caldwell. No. 1. The Center for Indian Studies, Rocky Mountain College, Billings, Montana, 1968, pp. 51-62.

Quarry site (AR25-05-10-6A)

Location. T11S R14W on Everson Creek, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. This is a large quarrying site from which crypto-



Hammerstone (AR25-05-10-6A)

crystalline nodules were broken up to obtain workable blanks. A number of large depressions show that early man excavated to acquire 'green' raw material (material exposed to oxidation tends to hinge or fracture poorly when flakes are removed). The larger pits are twenty feet in diameter and four feet deep. A hammerstone fragment of basalt and numerous cores found in association support the quarry hypothesis. Negative evidence is provided by the absence of flakes in the area. This would imply that the site was used only to obtain blanks, while tool refinement took place below the quarry in the shaded comfort of the stream bed. Multitudes of flake and debris are found near the stream.



Cultural affiliation. Unknown, but probably very old.

Area of occupation. Archeological District (AR25-05-10).

Present condition. Excellent.

Land ownership status. BLM and Private.

Informants and references. Roberto Costelles (BLM Regional Archeologist)

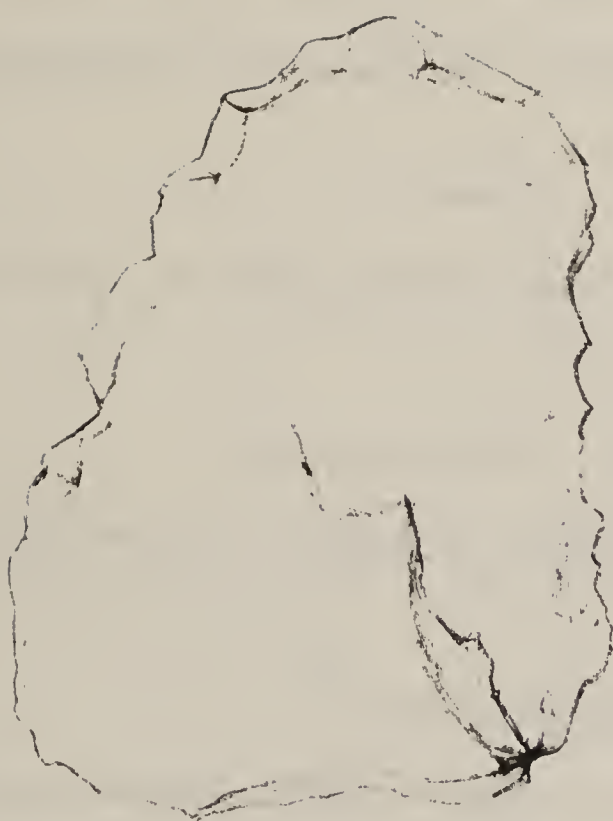
Problematic quarry site (AR25-05-10-6B)

Location. T11S R14W on Everson Creek, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. This appears to be a quarry site similar to that earlier reported. It, also, is located on a high south crest overlooking the valley below. A chalcedony scraper was associated with this area. Three shallow depressions characterize this site.

Cultural affiliation. Unknown.

Area of occupation. Archeological District (AR25-05-10).



Scraper (AR25-05-10-6B)

Present condition. Poor.

Land ownership status. BLM

Occupation area site (AR25-05-10-7)

Location. T11S R14W on Everson Creek, Montana (USGS).

Site description. This is a flat area and may be an activity or processing site. There is an absence of flakes found away from the stream, but an increase in the number of utilized tools. A basal half of a bifacially worked chalcedony notched knife and a bifacially worked chert "laurel-leaf" knife have been collected. The latter is one cm in cross section (plano-convex), nine and a half cm long and four and a half cm wide. It has three peculiar faceted edges and no secondary retouch scars (in light of this information, this may be a discarded blank.)

The bones earlier reported may have been butchered and cleaned in association with this area.

Cultural affiliation. Unknown.

Area of occupation. Archeological District (AR25-05-10).

Present condition. Good.

Land ownership status. Private and BLM.

Informants and references. Leondorf. "Stone Knives in Montana." Archaeology in Montana, vol.5, no. 4 (1964), pp. 1-10.

Occupational area site (AR25-05-10-8)

Location. T11S R14W on Everson Creek, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. Many flakes have washed down from the south ridge into this draw. The greatest concentration of flake debris is near the stream.

Little other cultural material can be noted up stream from the intersection of this draw and the stream. No artifacts are reported from the north side of the stream.

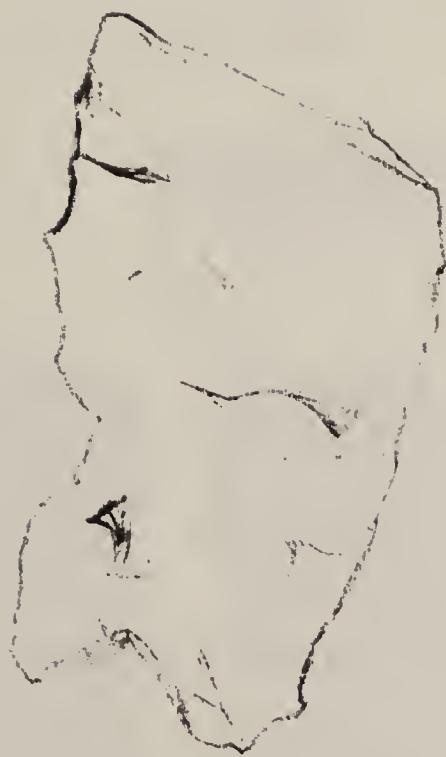
Tool production is implied.

Cultural affiliation. Unknown, but presumed ancient.

Area of occupation. Archeological District (AR25-05-10).

Present condition. Good.

Land ownership status. BLM



Notched knife (AR25-05-10-7A)



Pick or knife (AR25-05-10-7B)

Buffalo jump site (AR25-05-12)

Location. T11S R6W on Price Creek NE, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. This is a buffalo jump with a defined gathering area, stampede lane, cliff fall and kill and butchery site. The cliff faces the northeast and was utilized because the prevailing southwesterlies would not carry the stench from an earlier drive to the buffalo herd. The andesite/diorite cliff escarpment measures approximately twenty-five vertical feet. Below the actual drop lies a continuous fifty foot, 70° slope to the creek. A road cut below has exposed a dark organic soil lense believed to be in part decomposed buffalo carcasses; buffalo skeletal parts are found in association. A transversely cut metapodial (distal) was taken from a crag one hundred feet north of the kill site and seventy-five vertical feet from the cliff.

On top of the cliff jump were arranged stone piles (about eight stones to a pile) at intervals of twenty to forty feet in two separate lines oriented southwest/northeast towards the cliff. The cairns disappeared five hundred feet from the cliff. The abrupt draw to the south and the natural rock outcrop to the north probably acted as channel boundaries allowing the aboriginals to dispense with additional cairns.

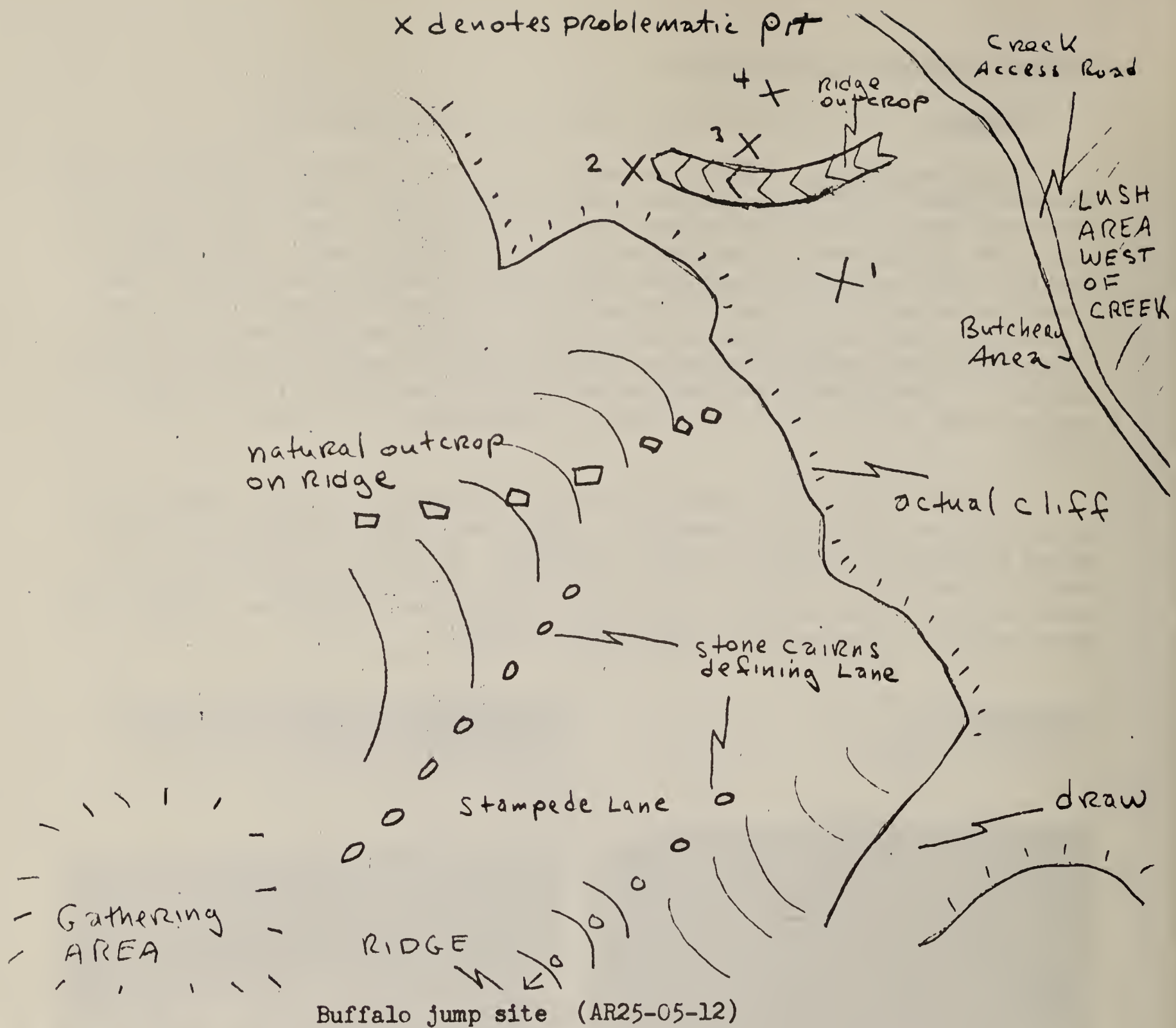


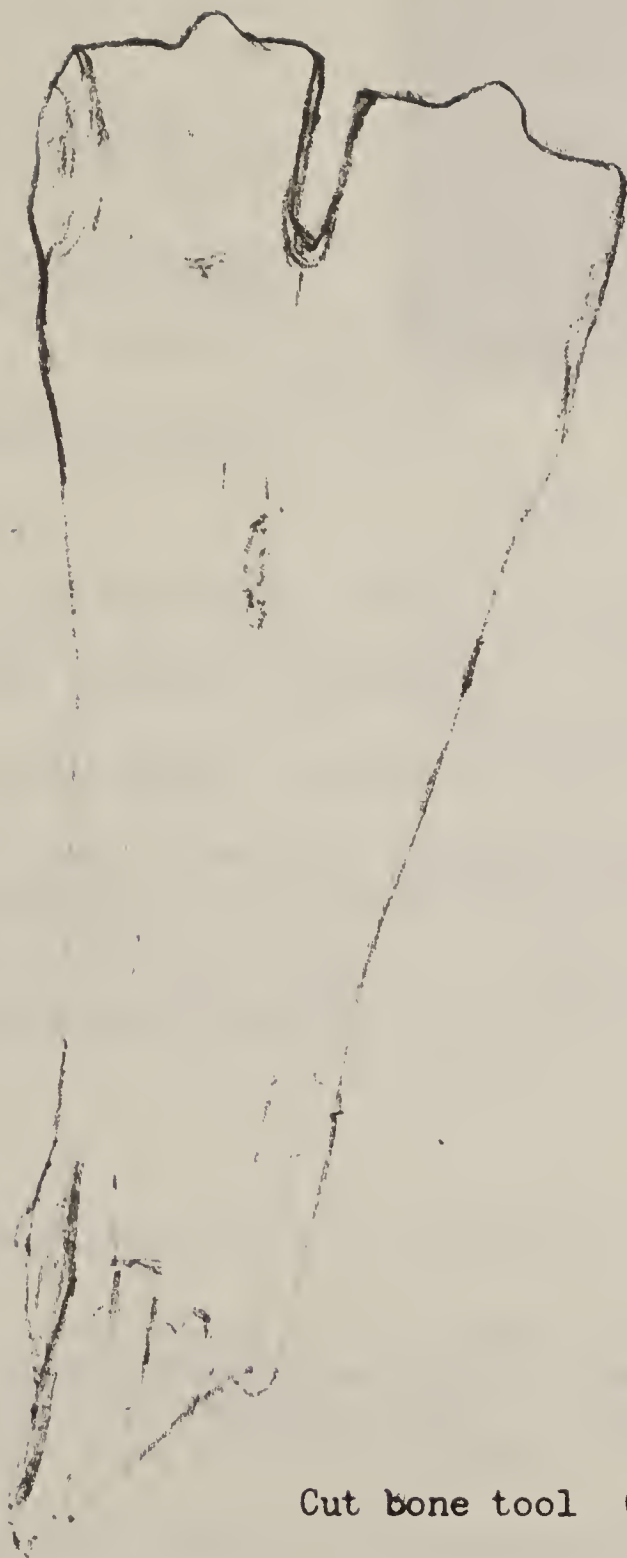
Frank Barnes has found a triangular knife exposed by the road cut. It may indicate some antiquity (Loendorf, p. 8).

Rock depressions of various dimensions were noted to the north. They may be human in origin.

Feature 1 - Problematic pit formed out of slabs of welded tuff. Dimensions: eleven by eight by three feet deep.

Feature 2 - Problematic pit formed out of slabs of welded tuff. Dimensions: seven by nine by four feet deep.





Cut bone tool (AR25-05-12)



Feature 3 - This pit looks very much like human hands stacked the slab rock which makes up its walls. It is smaller than the others and very symmetrical. Dimensions: five by five by two and a half feet deep.

Feature 4 - Problematic pit formed out of slabs of welded tuff. Dimensions: nine by nine by three feet deep.

Cultural affiliation. Unknown, but probably prior to the horse.

Area of occupation. Tepee ring site (AR25-05-34) may be in cultural association.

Present condition. Excellent.

Land ownership status. BLM

Informants and references. Brekke. "Three Buttes Bison Kill (24BL104)." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 11, no. 4 (1970), pp. 39-54.

Conners and Malouf, eds. "Symposium on Buffalo Jumps." Montana Archaeological Society, Memoir No. 1, 1962.

Loendorf. "Stone Knives in Montana." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 5, no. 4 (1964), pp. 1-10.

Rowley. The Piskuns of Montana. BLM manuscript, 1969.

Shumate. "The Carter Ferry Buffalo Kill." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 8, no. 2 (1967), pp. 1-10.

Frank Barnes, Ed Hastings.

Madison Buffalo Jump, Logan, MT and Burma Road Buffalo Jump, Dillon, MT.

Camp site (AR25-05-14)

Location. T14S R10W on Dixon Mt., Montana map (USGS).

Site description. This appears to be a temporary occupational area. A few flakes lie near a small creek, two to three hundred yards above and northwest of the main stream. A more permanent site may lie in the hills to the east. Game and edible vegetation would have been close at hand.

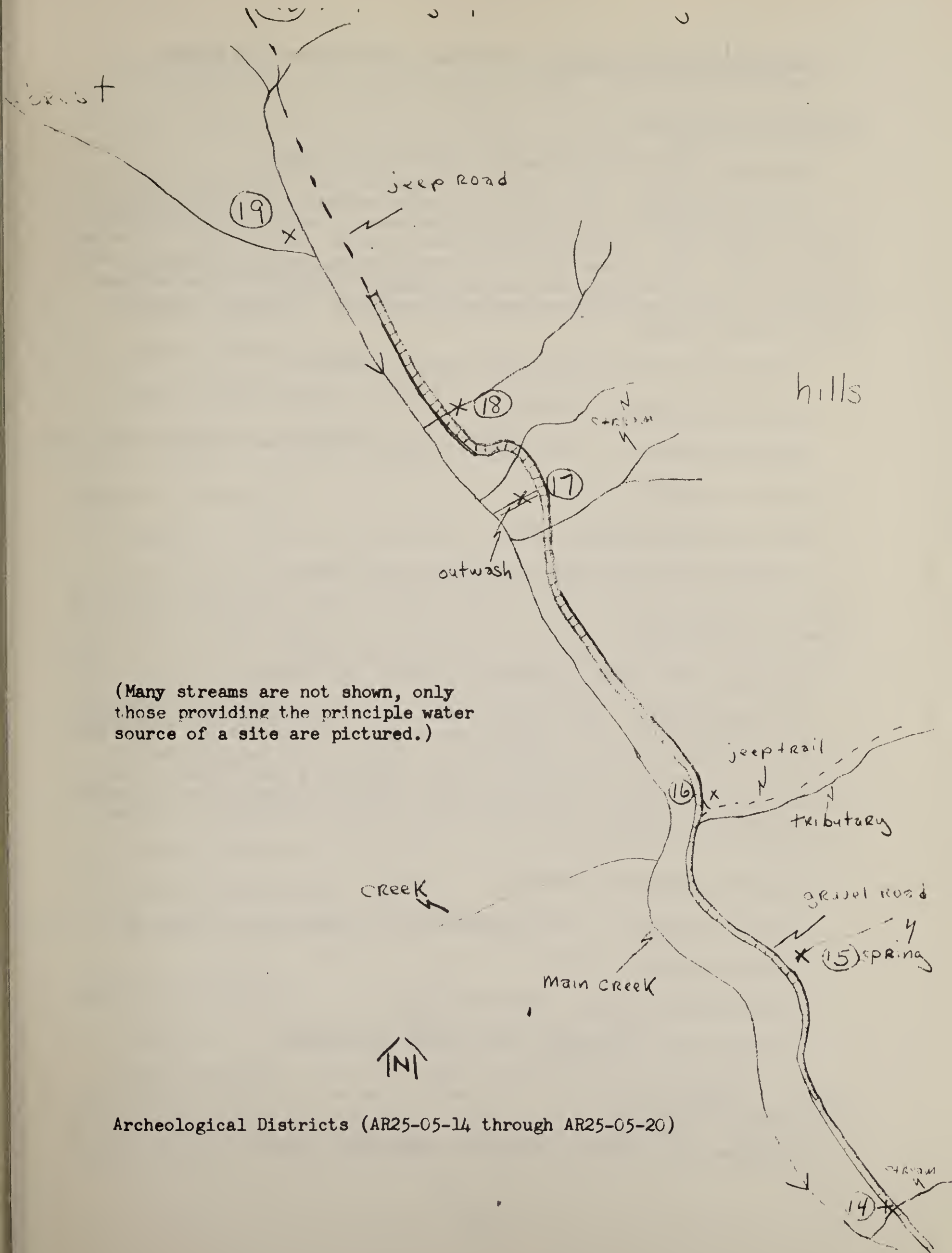
Surface debris has been picked over judging from the proximity of log cabins.

Cultural affiliation. Unknown.

Area of occupation. Archeological District (AR25-05-14 through AR25-05-20).

Present condition. Fair.

Land ownership status. BLM



Archeological Districts (AR25-05-14 through AR25-05-20)

Informants and references. Bob Gibson, Ed Hastings, Don Wilson.

Campsite (AR25-05-15)

Location. T13S R10W on Dixon Mt., Montana map (USGS).

Site description. This appears to be a temporary occupational site similar to that earlier reported. It encompasses a large area surrounding a lush, grassy flat. A spring flowing down from the east provides the necessary moisture. Hills flank the site on three sides, but more permanent occupational sites are not indicated at these higher elevations. Game may have been lured to the area by the richness of vegetation. The site sets well above the main stream.

Flakes were collected, but tools were not evident.

Cultural affiliation. Unknown.

Area of occupation. Archeological District (AR25-05-14 through AR25-05-20).

Present condition. Good.

Land ownership status. BLM

Informants and references. Bob Gibson, Don Wilson.

Campsite (AR25-05-16)

Location. T13S R10W on Dixon Mt., Montana map (USGS).

Site description. This site has been little investigated, but appears to be an occupational area. Judging from a jeep trail that winds itself over the Tendoy Mountains (in a somewhat direct course), this may have been a trail's end. The site sits above the main stream on a level bench. A pronounced draw and tributary lie to the east. Game was plentiful as evidenced by bone and flake debris. Buffalo were known to graze in this area. (See pictograph site AR25-05-20.)

Cultural affiliation. Unknown.

Area of occupation. Archeological District (AR25-05-14 through AR25-05-20).

Present condition. Good.

Land ownership status. BLM and Private.

Informants and references. Bob Gibson, Don Wilson.

Kill Site (AR25-05-17)

Location. T13S R10W on Dixon Mt., Montana map (USGS).

Site description. This appears to be a kill site. Don Wilson found a bison skull from within the deeply eroded outwash. Bone and flake appear at regular intervals within a white clay matrix. The site is near the main stream but elevated twenty feet on a terrace. A scraper-like tool may be associated with this site. The site may have served as a habitation site in the area east or away from the creek. Game browsing or grazing near the creek would have been less disturbed and easier prey. The persistent mosquito would have lost a bit of his determination the further he strayed from a water source.

Cultural affiliation. Unknown.

Area of occupation. Archeological District (AR25-05-14 through AR25-05-20).

Present condition. Good.

Land ownership status. Private.

Informants and references. Don Gibson.

Campsite (AR25-05-18)

Location. T13S R10W on Dixon Mt., Montana map (USGS).

Site description. This site is again typical in that it is a flat, positioned one to two hundred yards from the main creek and elevated above it. A road cut has exposed a fire hearth in cross section within the site's boundaries (a large cobble has been placed on the east cut of the road to mark its position). A small stream runs from the east to the west through the site into the main creek. A well-defined draw marks the east flank of the site. Many bones and flakes litter the surface. A quartzite chopper is catalogued from this site.

Cultural affiliation. Unknown.

Area of occupation. Archeological District (AR25-05-14 through AR25-05-20).

Present condition. Excellent.

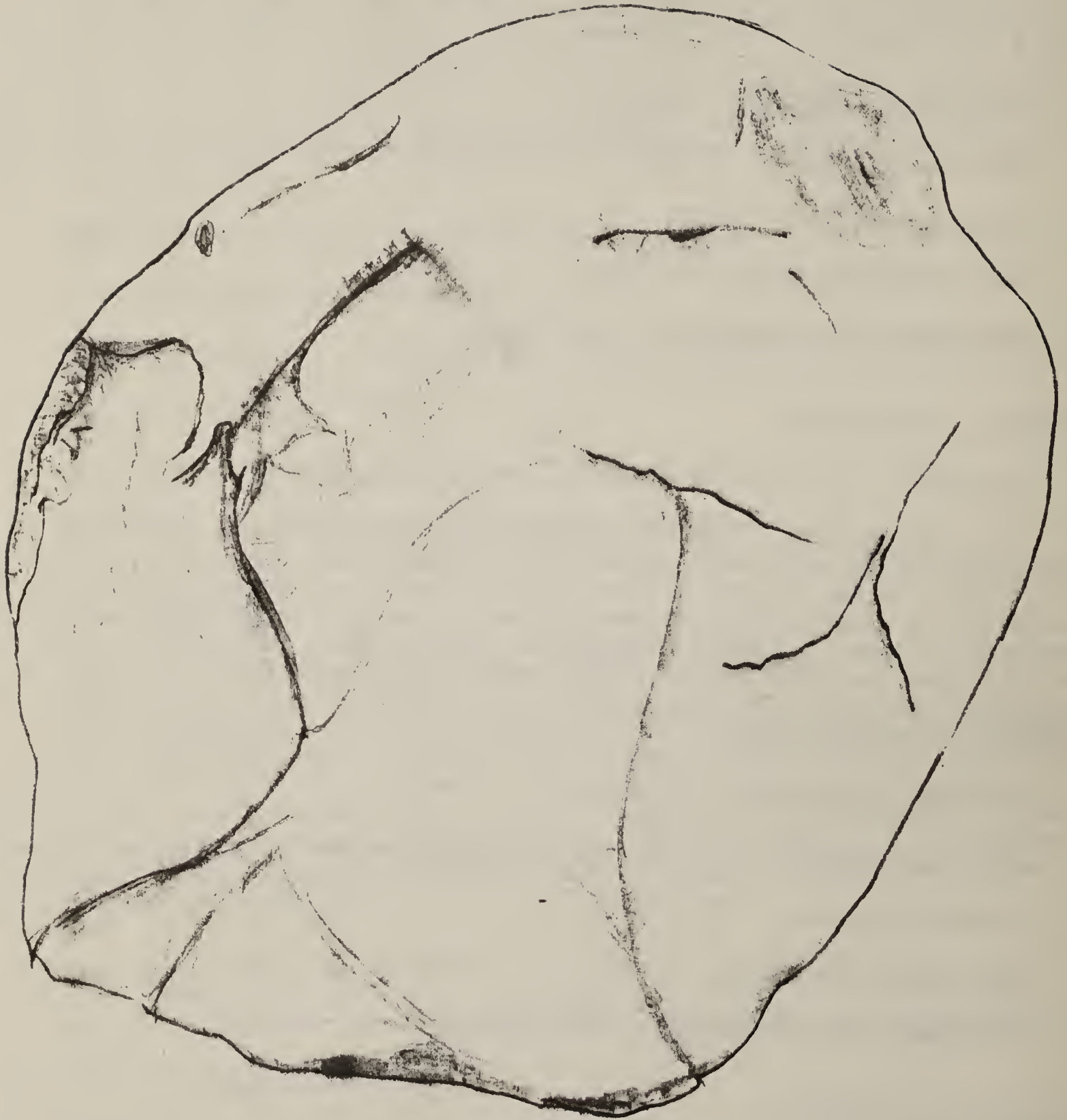
Land ownership status. Private.

Informants and references. Don Wilson.

Campsite (AR25-05-19)

Location. T13S R11W on Graphite Mt., Montana (USGS).

Site description. This is a large occupational area spreading over two terraces, both near the main stream. The lower terrace extends over the most area and yields the most surface debris. A finely chipped thumb-nail scraper (chalcedony) was found here. Bone was also abundant. The upper terrace had fewer flakes, but a better view of the area, especially of the



Chopper (AR25-05-18)

main stream. Patches of timber would have been easily accessible from the upper terrace, for defense purposes or for tool utilization. Sagebrush is still a readily attainable, highly flammable fuel.

Cultural affiliation. Unknown.

Area of occupation. Archeological District (AR25-05-14 through AR25-05-20).

Present condition. Excellent.

Land ownership status. BLM

Informants and references. Bob Gibson, Don Wilson.

Pictograph/Cave site (AR25-05-20)

Location. T12S R11W on Deer Canyon, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. These pictographs were painted on the far northwest wall of a fairly large cave (15' x 15' x 20') fifty yards above a stream and one hundred yards below a spring. The cave appears to have had a volcanic origin, as indicated by welded tuff and breccia found in a large depression at the cave's mouth. Water seepage is eroding the cave as well as the pictographs.



Jasman's report, in 1962, recorded more figures and finer detail than are now present. Her article should be consulted for a comparison of the erosional loss over time (however, the position of her figures on the cave



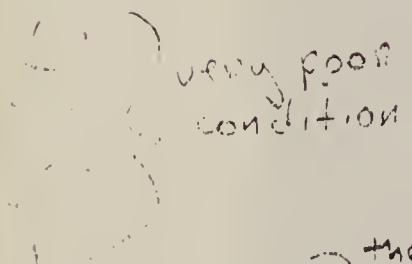
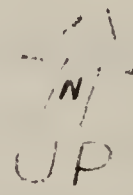
wall are grossly out of line).

The pictographs are all of solid red ochre. The central group of figures appears to be a mounted hunter approaching three bison.

The cave is only slightly potted.

A knife/punch multiple-use tool was found a half mile down the stream bed from the cave.

Punch tool (AR25-05-20)

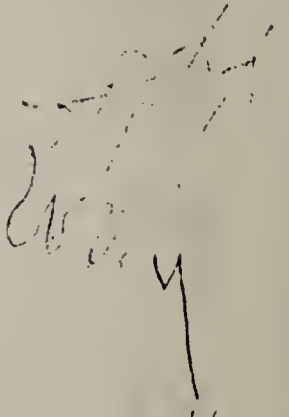
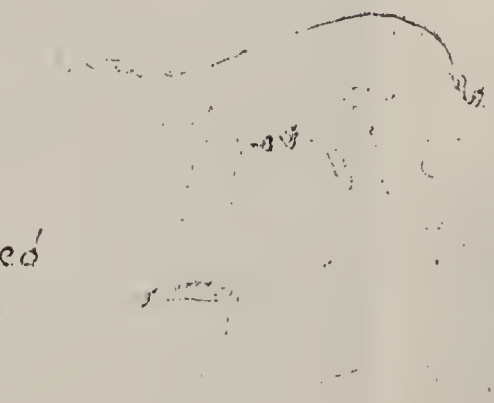


very poor condition

LO2D
LONSEN } the immortalized
pot hunter

Far West Wall Panel

poorly defined due to erosion



grossly weathered



Cultural affiliation. Unknown; however, two of the figures appear to be mounted on horses (?). If so, the pictograph would be relatively recent.

Area of occupation. Archaeological District (AR25-05-14 through AR25-05-20).

Present condition. Good.

Land ownership status. Forest Service.

Informants and references. Jasmann. "Seven Pictograph Sites in Southwestern Montana." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 3, no. 3 (1962), pp. 9-10.

Buffalo Jump site (AR25-05-21)

Location. T9S R5W on Red Canyon, Montana map (USGS).

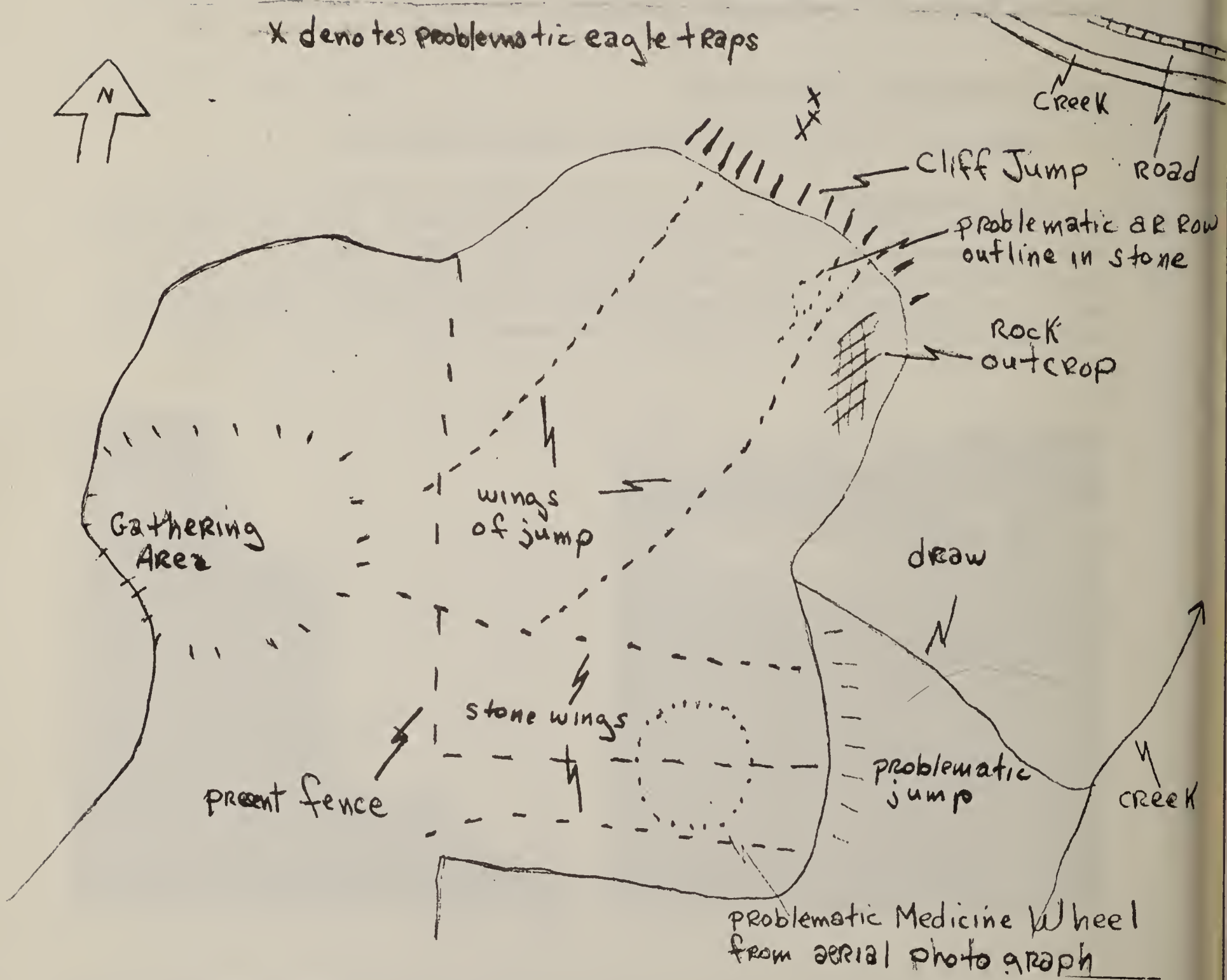
Site description. This is a classic Buffalo Jump with a defined collection area, stampede lane, cliff fall and kill area. The two wings defining the stampede lane are constructed of large single chunks of welded tuff placed next to each other. The cliff fall is a twenty-five foot vertical drop. The escarpment faces the northeast (in the past the southwesterlies probably blew the stench of decaying carcasses away from the unsuspecting buffalo herd).



Three problematic pits lie below the cliff and are associated with bones. Their dimensions are similar to those found at Buffalo Jump site (AR25-05-12). This area has been potted in the past.

Near the edge of the cliff and pointing over the east edge of the cliff (parallel with the stampede lane) lies a large arrow-like outline constructed

Buffalo Jump Site (AR25-05-21)





of welded tuff chunks placed one next to the other. Roberto Costelles says that shaman 'compulsory magic' is responsible for this alignment of stones. Ritual significance is indeed supported by the added presence of a problematic Medicine Wheel. It appears to be composed of welded tuff chunks arranged in the form of a wheel. It is slightly ovoid with its long axis oriented north/south. No spokes are discernable, however, a hub is apparent from aerial photographs.

A second Buffalo Jump site may lie a hundred yards east of the Medicine Wheel to the southeast of the main jump. No bone is noticeable below the escarpment, but two

well-defined stampede-lane wings run east/west. These wings are best noted from the air.

Cultural affiliation. Unknown.

Area of occupation. Tepee Ring site (AR25-05-34) and Buffalo Jump site (AR25-05-12) are in proximity.

Present condition. Excellent.

Land ownership status. Private.

Informants and references. Mulloy. A Preliminary Historical Outline for the Northwestern Plains. University of Wyoming Publication, 1958, p.213.

Malouf. "A Short History of Montana Archaeology." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 3, no. 2 (1961), p. 2.

Malouf. "The Tipi Rings of the High Plains." American Antiquity, vol.26, no. 3 (1961), p. 388.

Roberto Costelles, Dick Harms, Ed Hastings, Steve Sherman.

See (AR25-05-12) for related references.

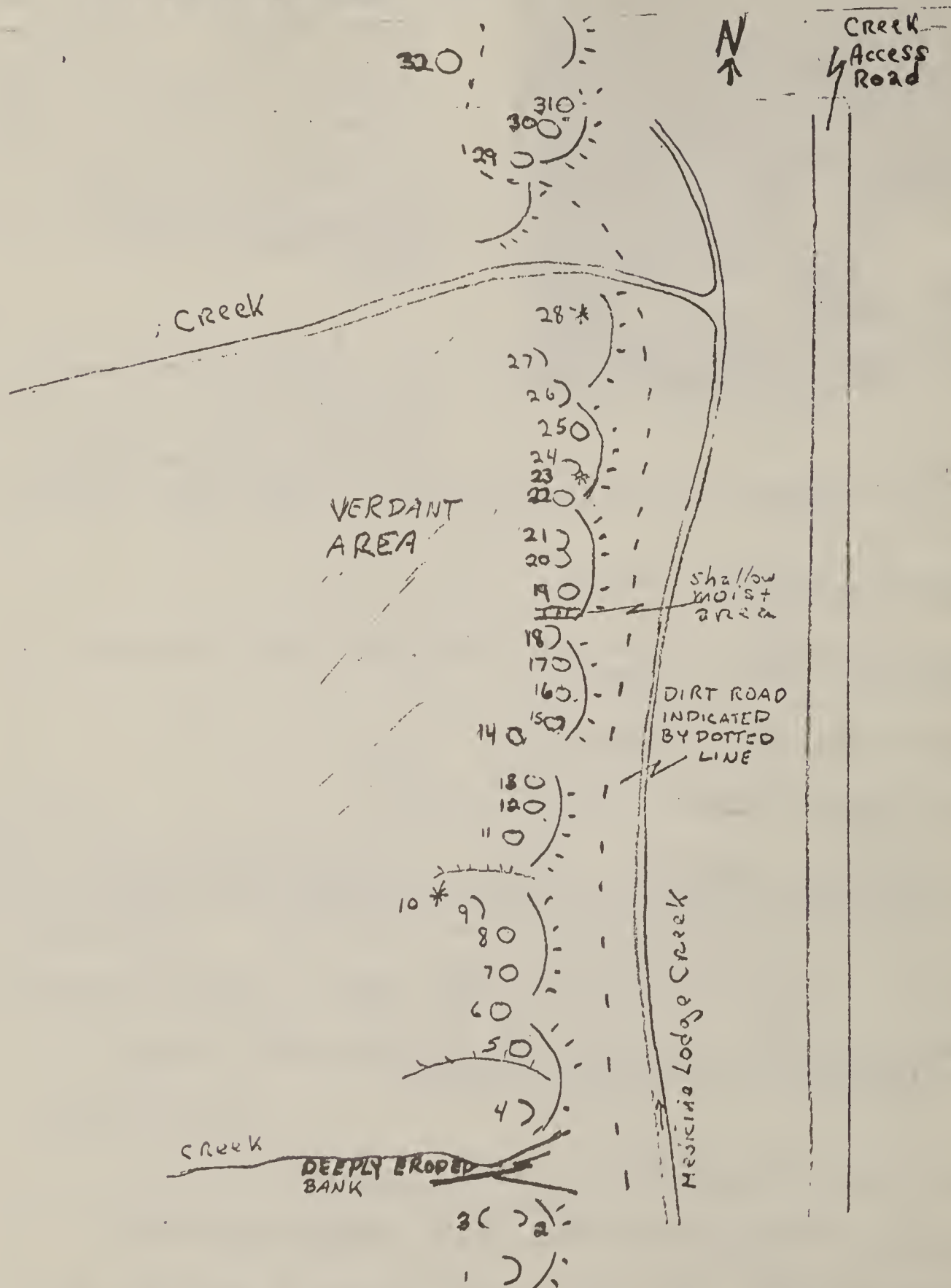
Tepee Ring site (AR25-05-22)

Location. T13S R12W on Morrison Lake, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. The rings average sixteen to seventeen feet in diameter and are made up of fairly large cobblestones. The bench on which they rest is about fifty to seventy-five feet above the creek running parallel with the south to north flow of the creek. The rings are of two types: (1) large single course of stone ring outlines and (2) both large and small multiple course of stone ring outlines. These two types of formations may be a simple matter of varying erosional rates from ring to ring. The smaller rings do appear to be in worse condition and probably older than the other rings.

Feature 1 - Problematic Ring - poorly defined and probably old. Thirteen feet wide and missing west edge.

Feature 2 - Problematic Ring - poorly defined and probably old. Four feet wide and missing west edge.



Feature 3 - Same as above -missing east edge. Thirteen feet wide.

Feature 4 - Teepee Ring - poorly defined and probably old. Fourteen feet wide and missing west edge. Multiple course ring.

Feature 5 - Teepee Ring - fair condition. Sixteen feet wide. Multiple course ring.

- Feature 6 - Problematic Ring - poorly defined and cluttered inside. Eighteen feet wide.
- Feature 7 - Tepee Ring - fair condition. Fifteen feet wide and a multiple course ring.
- Feature 8 - Tepee Ring - fair condition. Sixteen feet wide and a multiple course ring.
- Feature 9 - Possible remnant of ring - very bad condition. Preserved segment is fifteen feet by eighteen feet long.
- Feature 10 - Small rock cairn (five stones visible) composed of large cobbles. No evidence of fire.
- Feature 11 - Tepee Ring - fair condition. Sixteen feet wide and a multiple course ring.
- Feature 12 - Tepee Ring - fair condition. Seventeen feet wide and a multiple course ring.
- Feature 13 - Tepee Ring - fair condition. Sixteen feet wide and a multiple course ring.
- Feature 14 - Tepee Ring - good condition. Seventeen feet wide and a single course ring.
- Feature 15 - Tepee Ring - fair condition, but cluttered within. Sixteen feet wide.
- Feature 16 - Tepee Ring - good condition. Seventeen feet wide and a multiple course ring.
- Feature 17 - Tepee Ring - good condition. Nineteen feet wide and a multiple course ring.
- Feature 18 - Problematic Ring - poorly defined and missing the west edge. Twenty feet wide and a single course outline.
- Feature 19 - Tepee Ring - fair condition. Fourteen feet wide and a double course ring.
- Feature 20 - Tepee Ring - good condition. Sixteen feet wide and a double course ring.
- Feature 21 - Tepee Ring - good condition. Sixteen feet wide and a double course ring.
- Feature 22 - Tepee Ring - good condition. Sixteen feet wide and a double course ring.
- Feature 23 - Stone cairn composed of large cobbles. Seven foot diameter at base by six feet high. No evidence of fire.
- Feature 24 - Tepee Ring - good condition. Seventeen feet wide and a single course ring.

- Feature 25 - Problematic Ring - poorly defined and probably old. Sixteen feet wide.
- Feature 26 - Problematic Ring - poorly defined and missing west edge. Eighteen feet wide.
- Feature 27 - Problematic Ring - poorly defined and missing west edge. Sixteen feet wide.
- Feature 28 - Small stone cairn composed of river cobbles. No evidence of fire.
- Feature 29 - Problematic Ring - poorly defined and probably old. Thirteen feet wide.
- Feature 30 - Problematic Ring - poorly defined and probably old. Thirteen feet wide.
- Feature 31 - Small shallow depression of stones.
- Feature 32 - Problematic Ring - poorly defined and probably old. Fifteen feet wide.

Cultural affiliation. Difficult to date, however, the site has been occupied intermittently over a period of time, as evidenced by lichen growth (i.e. recent rings have little lichen growth, older rings have lichen carrying from one stone to the next).

Present condition. Good.

Land ownership status. BLM

Informants and references. Malouf. "The Tipi Rings of the High Plains." American Antiquity, vol.26, no. 3 (1961), pp. 381-389.

Dick Harmes, Ed Hastings.

Look Out / Battle Pit / Vision Quest site (AR25-05-24)

Location. T9S R13W on Grant, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. These are depressions created by the stacking of andesite talus. Their dimensions vary. (See below.)

Features 4, 5 & 6 may be vision quest sites owing to their size, shape and position (Fredlund, 1969). They have little defensive value and are too elaborate for look out positions, although they may have served that purpose.

Features A & B may be remnants of a stone wall from which sharp-shooters were protected in their shifts from battle pit to battle pit.

Features 9-14 probably served as hastily prepared battle pits, judging from their diminutive size and irregular shape.

Features 7 & 8 probably had a similar application, however, their more concealed appearance and regular shape support a look out function.



Feature 1 - This is a talus depression formed by the positioning of stone slabs into a breastworks. It has a perfect vantage of the streams east of the butte (no doubt a migratory path for man and animal alike). Dimensions: four by five by two feet deep.

Feature 2 - This is a talus depression less well camouflaged by the sagebrush and rock outcropping than the others. Little vegetation is in proximity. Dimensions: two foot diameter by sixteen inches deep.

Feature 3 - This depression is to the immediate west of Feature 2. It is not well camouflaged, due to the absence of vegetation in the surrounding area (twenty foot radius). Dimensions: four foot diameter by eight inches deep.

Features 2 & 3 afford the viewer a near panorama north, west and east for miles. Enemy parties and game herds probably followed the creeks running from the south and west towards the east. These depressions appear to have traces of plant material growing within them. This may be taken as shaky evidence for the pits having been grass lined, i.e. decomposing grass lining may have allowed the later growth of vegetation in an otherwise sterile talus area.

Feature 4 - This is a flat area created by talus having been thrown back up the slope and to the sides. Sagebrush grows in front of the flat and may have served as a camouflage cover. Dimensions: six foot diameter clearing.

Feature 5 - This is an extremely large pit (six to seven foot diameter by

three feet deep). It is constructed of talus and lies just above a comoflage of sagebrush. It has a high wall or breastworks over-locking the lush bottomland below. It is to the immediate west of Feature 4.

Feature 6 - This is a flat area created by the removal of talus in the same manner as Feature 4. Sagebrush grows on the flat. Dimension: six foot diameter clearing. Features 4 and 6 flank Feature 5.



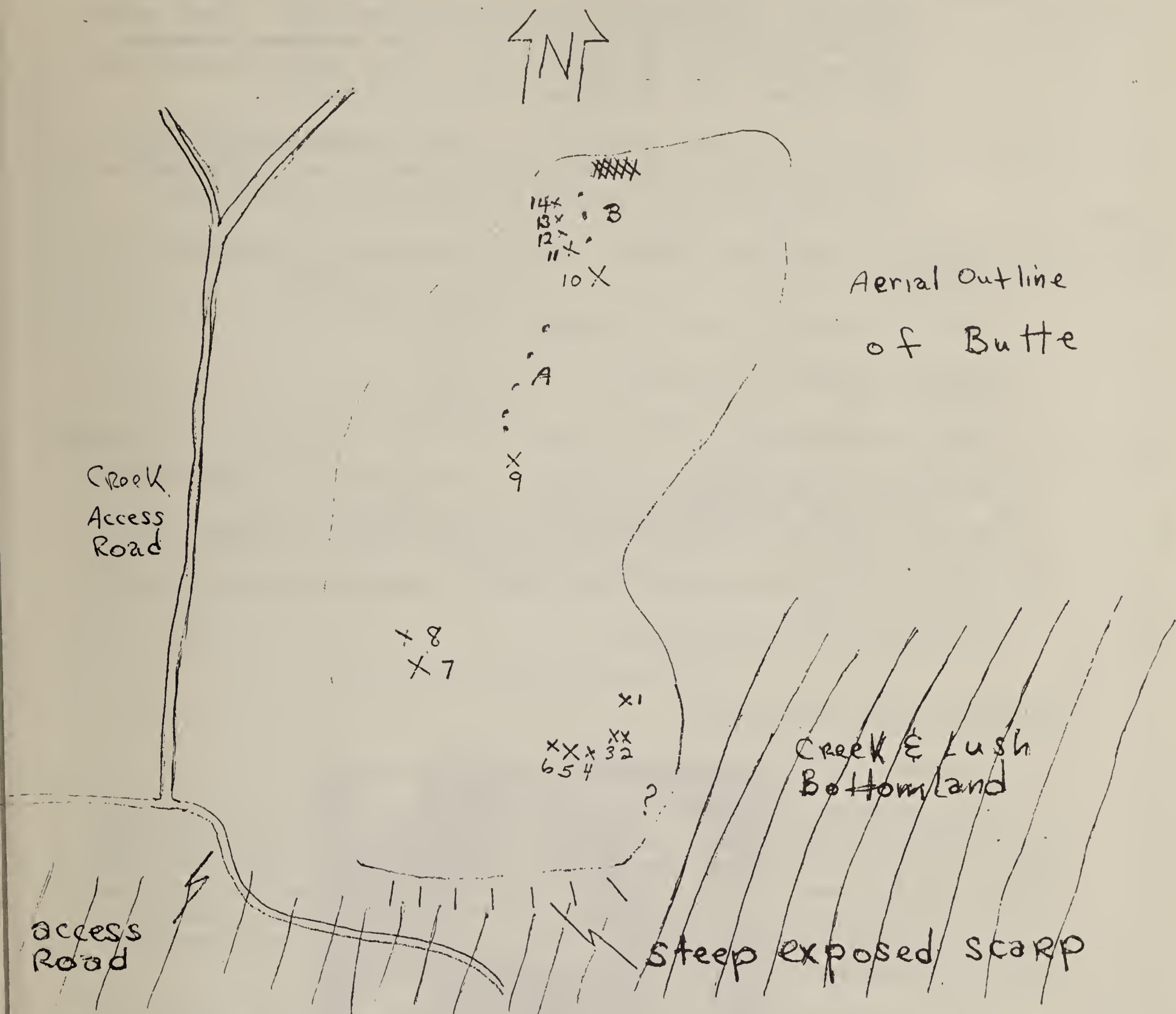
Features 4, 5 & 6 are in excellent condition and probably served as vision quest sites. "...other examples of a non-tipi type of ring are found in western Montana where young prospective shamans went to hilltop circles to seek guardian spirits. There are several old Flathead, Pend d'Oreille, and Kutenai still living who received their powers at these places. When examined, the circles proved to be eight or nine feet in diameter and often consist of dry masonry walls laid up about three feet high (Malouf, 1963, p. 386)." The three features together produce a scalloped wall on the uphill side of the structures, with Feature 5 having an impressive breastworks to its forefront.

Feature 7 - This is a pit well concealed by sagebrush and with a good view of the broad plain to the northwest. Dimensions: five by three by two feet deep.

Feature 8 - This is a pit of similar dimensions to Feature 7. It lies ten feet directly below Feature 7 and is also well hidden. A very lush plain lies below to the northwest/southeast. Bone is associated with this pit.

Feature 9 - On the central hillock of the butte to the north of the above mentioned features is a small pit (two foot diameter by one foot deep). There is a good view of the surrounding area from this location.

Feature 10 - To the north of the third hillock (northern-most rise) lies a deep pit carved from the talus. It is three feet in diameter and three feet deep and gives a commanding view of the area north.



Feature 11 - To the north of Feature 10 lies a pit of similar dimensions to Feature 10. The view afforded is again to the north.

Features 12, 13 & 14 - To the north of Feature 11 and lying in a row down the slope are three additional pits. They are separated by ten to twenty feet and have similar dimensions to Feature 10.

Feature (?) - This is a depression in the talus found at stream level near the southeast side of the butte. It may have been created by

a large falling rock displaced from above. It is not well defined. More probably, it was a product of human ingenuity, having served as a blind for hunting game near the creek.

Feature A - Running from the central hillock to the north hillock of the butte is a rock alignment of gathered stone piles. These cairns are ten to twenty feet apart. River worn stone was found one hundred feet from the third hillock. These cobbles, as well as the alignment, lie to the west side of the butte.

Feature B - Piles of rock are scattered along the northwest slope of the northern most hillock. Animal bones were found in association with these piles (an ungulate metapodial was left in situ).

Cultural affiliation. Unknown, but probably since the appearance of horse warfare.

Area of occupation. Crest of butte.

Present condition. Excellent.

Land ownership status. BLM

Informants and references. Fredlund. "Vision Quest Sites and Structures." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 10, no. 1 (1969), pp. 14-20.

Malouf. "Battle Pits and War Lodges." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 5, no. 2 (1963), pp. 1-11.

Malouf. "Tipi Rings of the High Plains." American Antiquity, vol. 26, no. 3 (1961), p. 386.

Ed Hastings, Elfreda Woodside.

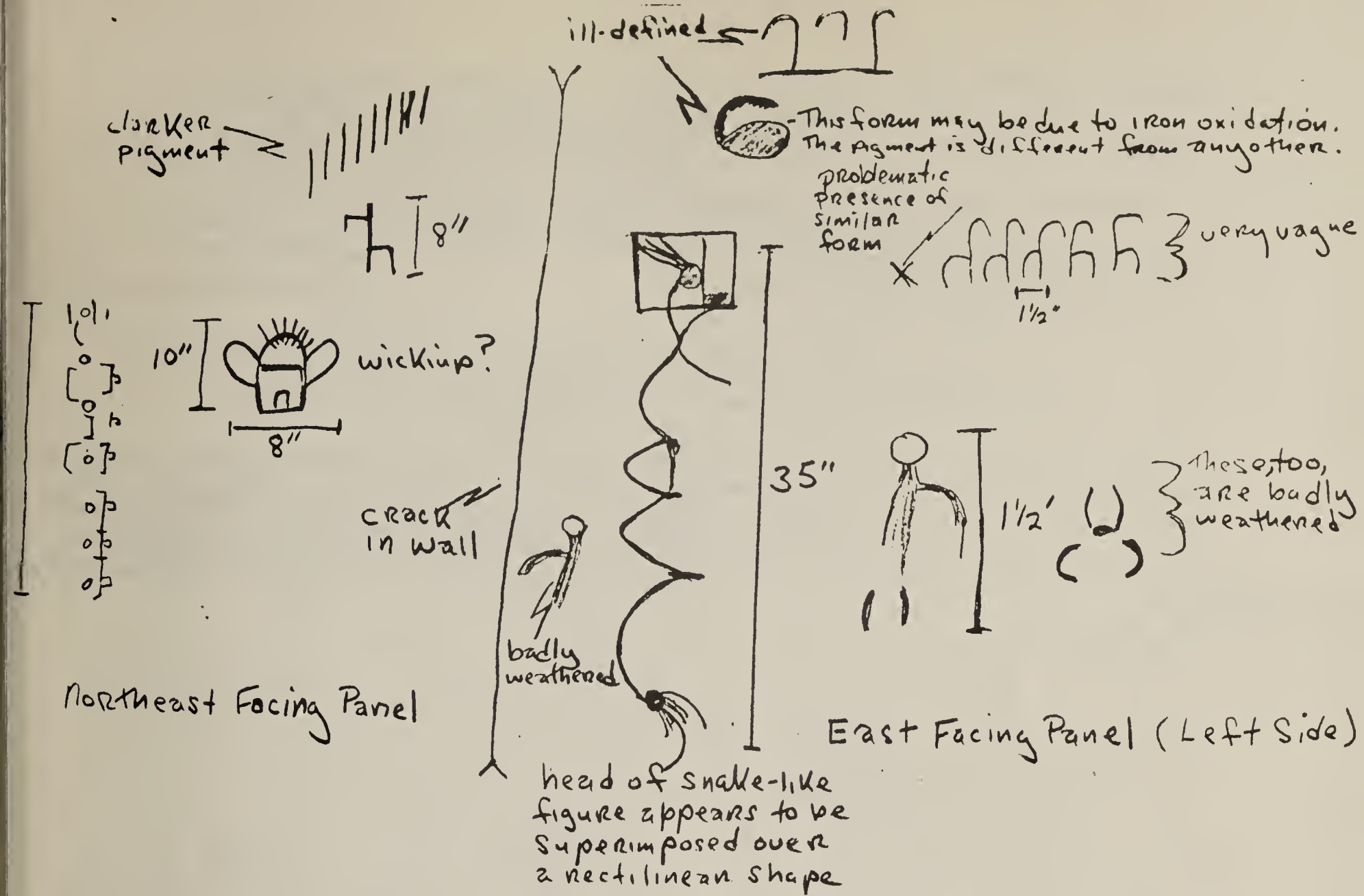
Pictograph site (AR25-05-25)

Location. T8S R10W on Dalys, Montana (USGS).

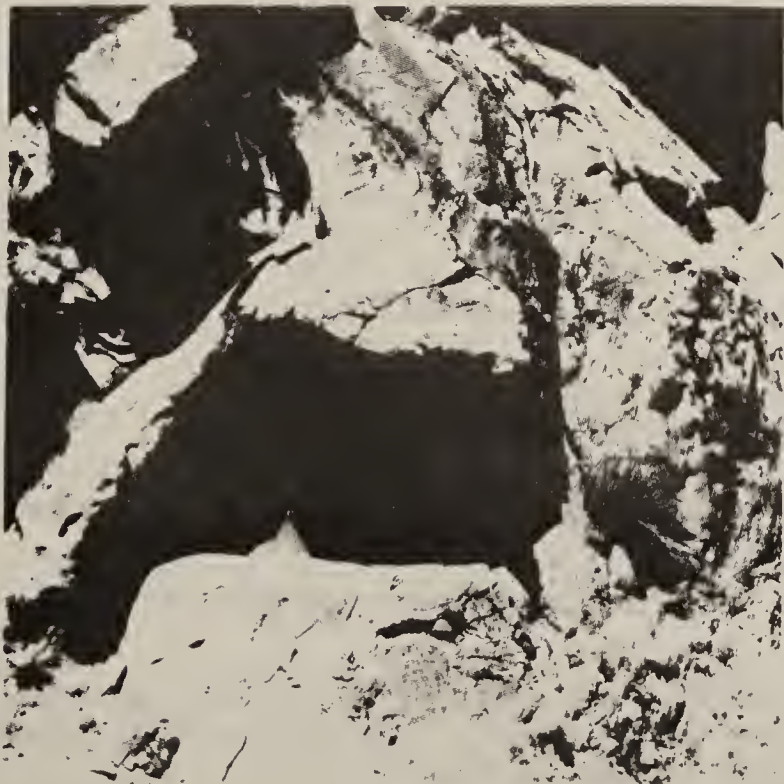
Site description. "These pictographs are beneath an overhanging limestone formation [correction: sandstone formation], and they face the southeast. Coloring is with red pigments. The surface on which they are located is about twelve feet wide and seven to eight feet high. The flooring beneath the pictographs consists of native flat rock. A cliff extends above for nearly two hundred feet. It seems to be along a trail once well-traveled, and the pictographs could be readily observed (Jasmann, p. 5)."

Jasmann's illustrations and those found in this report differ very little. This is somewhat surprising in that natural decay and human destruction would seem to spell the end for a site so near the highway. It is encouraging to note that in ten years little has been lost. There have been reports of 'doctoring up' the pictographs, but there is no evidence for it.

All figures are painted in red and well protected from the southwest-erlies. Cave has been charred in the southwest ceiling corner.



Pictograph Site (AR25-05-25)



East Facing Panel (Right Side)

These upper figures are drawn on dark sandstone and may be very old

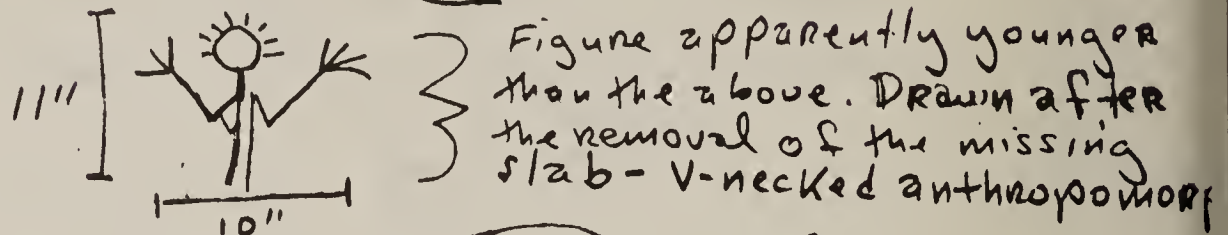
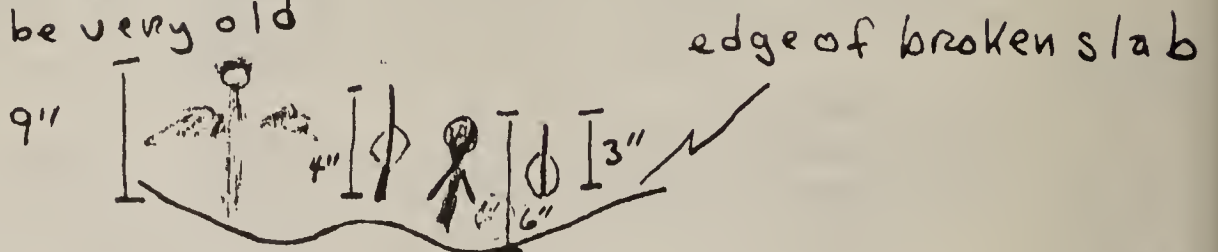
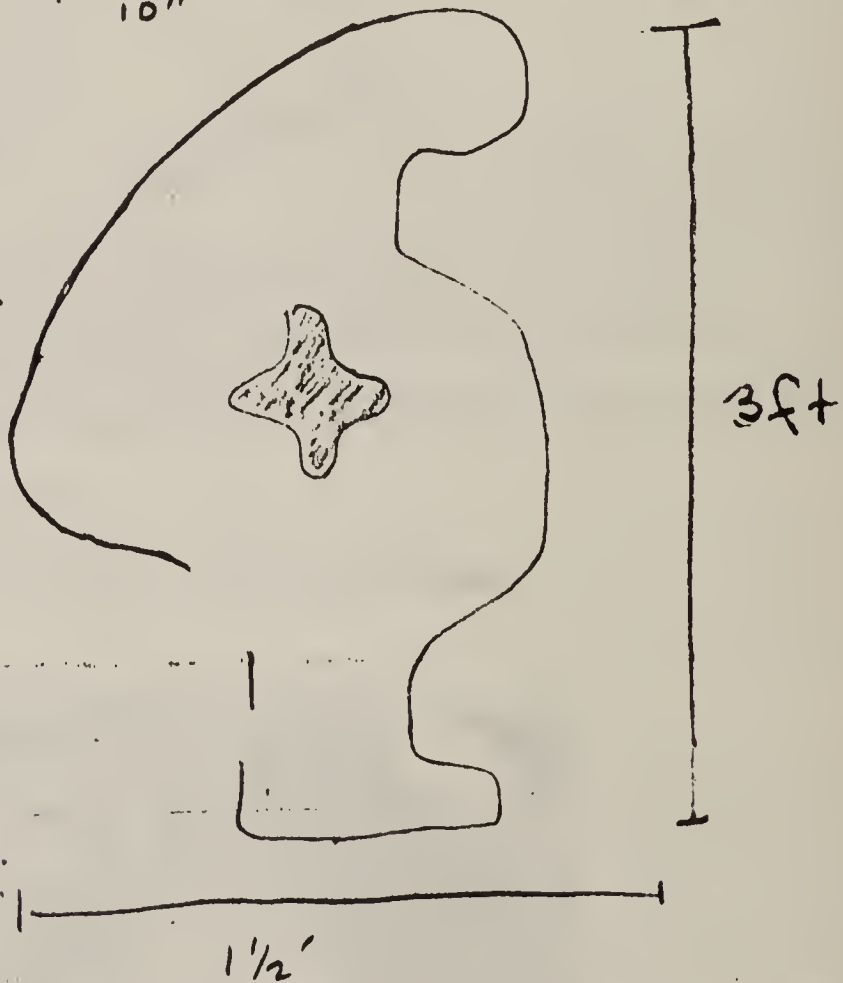


Figure apparently younger than the above. Drawn after the removal of the missing slab - V-necked anthropomorph

Pigment found on Central Ceiling Panel



Very vague in outline



Pictograph Site (AR25-05-25)

Cultural affiliation. Unknown, but painted over a period of time.

Area of occupation. The surrounding area was no doubt occupied.

Present condition. Good.

Land ownership status. BLM

Informants and references. Barnier. "Lookout Cave (24PH42)." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 10, no. 3 (1969), pp 28-31.

Jasmann. "Seven Pictograph Sites in Southwestern Montana." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 3, no. 3 (1962), pp. 5, 7 & 8.

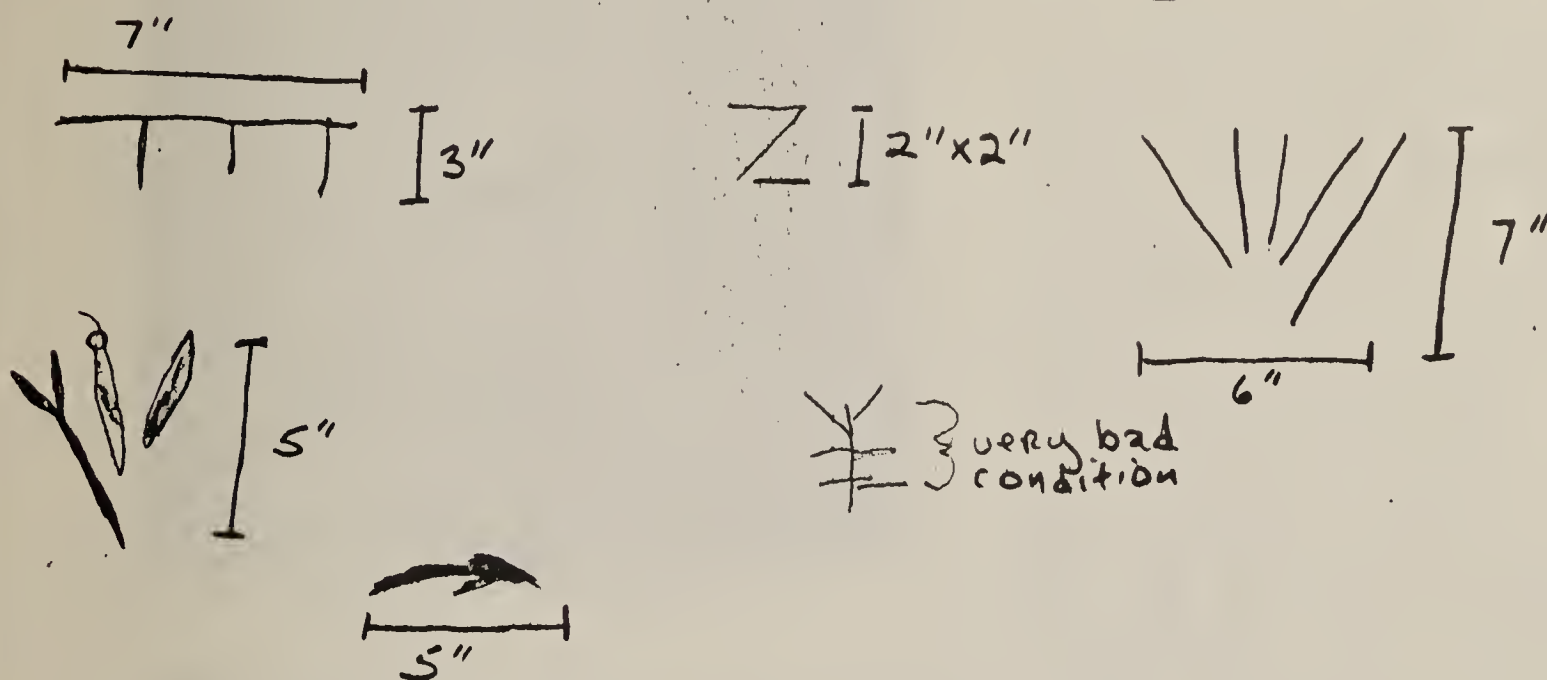
Schultz. Blackfeet and Buffalo Memories of Life among the Indians. University of Oklahoma Press, 1962, p. 272 (d, e & f).

Ed Hastings.

Pictograph site (AR25-05-27)

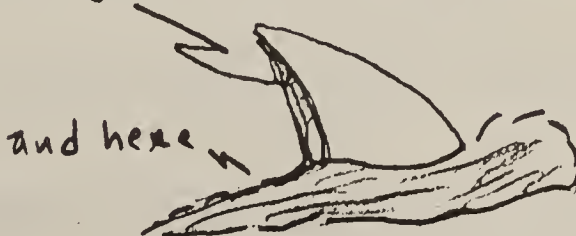
Location. T10W R11W on Red Rock, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. Very dark red pigment has been painted on the lower rock plinth. The upper overhang panel has been all but destroyed by 'pot hunter,' however, the only forms detectable are found on this face. The overhang faces the northwest and appears to be of a limestone formation. These paintings lie thirty feet to the west of Jasmann's reported pictographs.



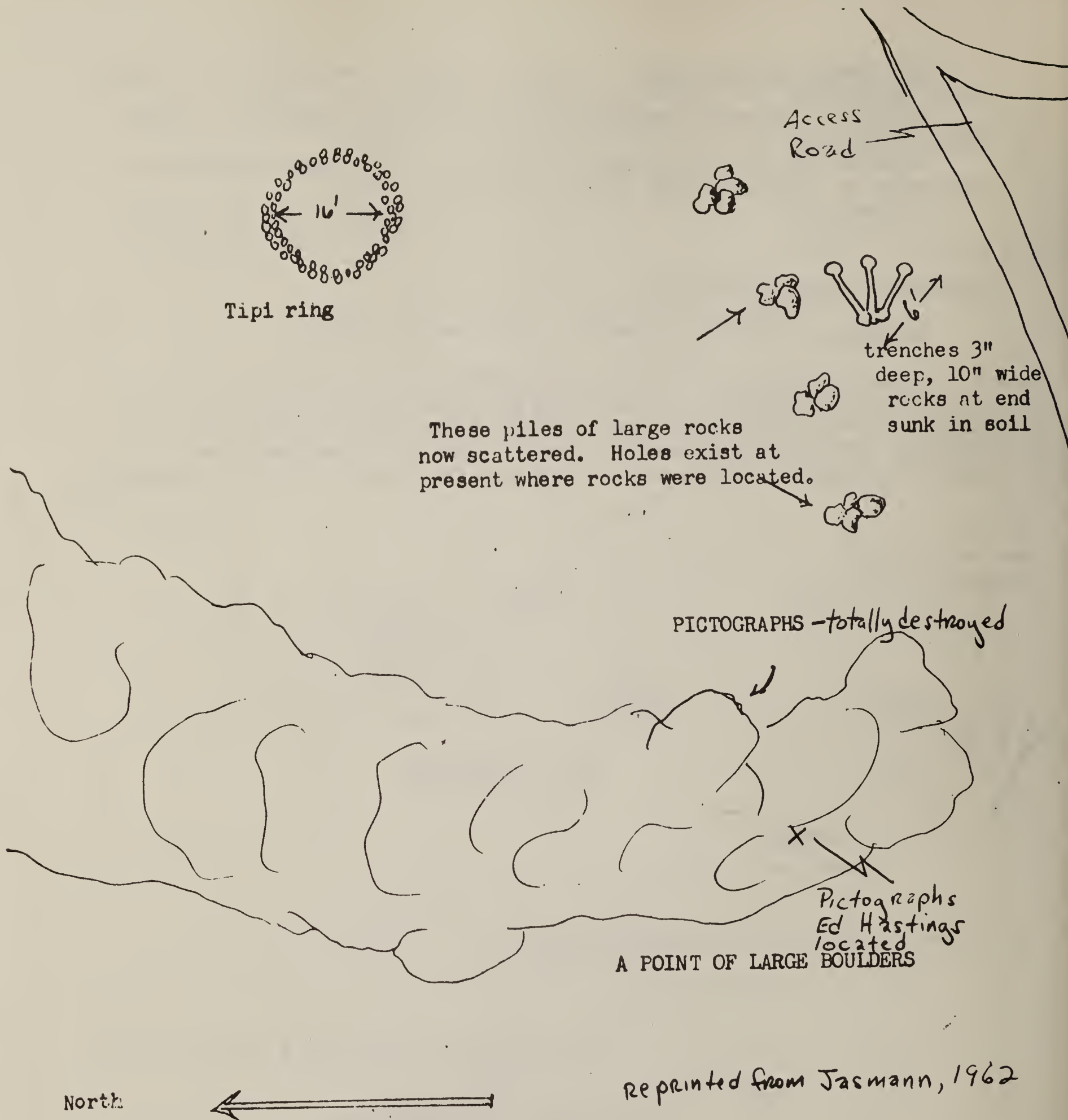
all other illustrations are beyond recognition

pictographs on exfoliated rock surface



A tipi ring lies to the northeast and the problematic presence of a stone cairn alignment runs east/west. Both are in very poor condition due to pot hunting activities. (See Jasmann's map.)

The pictographs Jasmann has previously described have been completely destroyed. Their past location reproduced below.



reprinted from Jasmann, 1962

Pictograph Site (AR25-05-27)

Cultural affiliation. Unknown.

Area of occupation. Pictographs have been previously inventoried to the southeast of the site.

Present condition. Poor.

Land ownership status. Private.

Informants and references. Jasmann. "Seven Pictographs in Southwestern Montana." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 3, no. 3 (1962), pp.12-14. Ed Hastings.

Pictograph site (AR25-05-28)

Location. 7S 6W on Mine Gulch, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. These are red ochre pictographs on the southwest exposure of a limestone outcrop. To the west is a sheep-like creature with long curling horns which touch the back of the body (these are unlike indigenous sheep). The ram is filled in with red pigment and bordered in blue.



The blue is not continuous but rather appears on the high relief. This figure is attractive and appeals to a 'naturalistic' style. It may be quite old. It faces the west.

Slightly to the east of the ram is an anthropomorph with the legs and possibly the head in profile. The torso appears to be a large rectangle with a circular disk (sun-like) at its center. Neither the torso or the disk are filled in. The disk has radial dash marks intersecting the circumference from the inside. This disk is similar to Shoshoni Shield pictographs found in other regions and may have been painted by a Shoshone. The legs are solid pigment, while the head is only an outline. If the projection to the side of the head

is a nose, then this figure also faces the west. However, the feet and legs appear to be directed east.

Ten feet to the southeast is another excellent anthropomorph. The square head has been superimposed over an arrow. The arrow is not filled in and is oriented down. Two appendages are attached to the left side of the anthropomorph mid-way along the rectangular torso. This appears to be a V-necked figure.

The outline of a horse was located above the ram. It may be the most recent and the most deteriorated of the pictographs.

Cultural affiliation. Very difficult to date, one to three hundred years old.

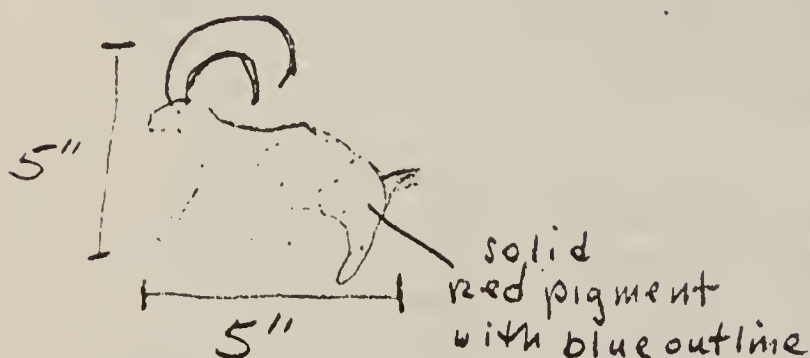
Area of occupation. Tepee rings have been reported on the bench to the southwest. A red cross was located thirty feet up and to the west of the main panel.

Present condition. Fair.

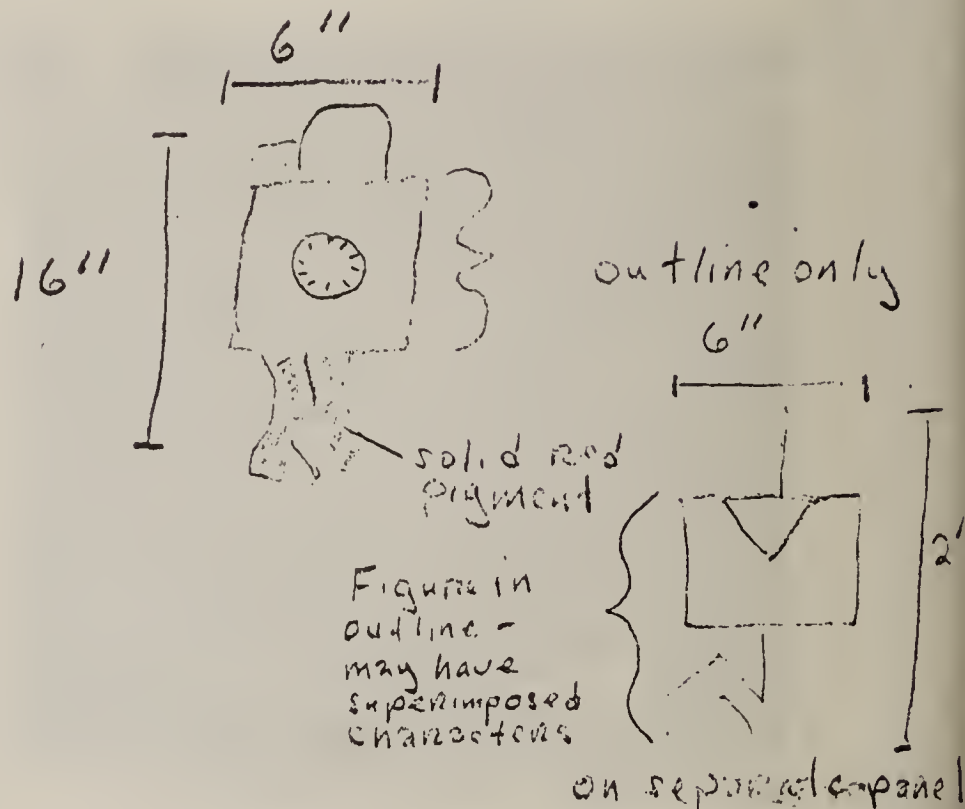
Three figures to west represent
work found on one panel

out line of roughly
defined horse here
X

← W



→ E



Pictograph Site (AR25-05-28)

Land ownership status. Private.

Informants and references. Barnier. "Lookout Cave (24PH402)." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 10, no. 3 (1969), pp. 28-31.

Malouf. "The Shoshonean Migrations Northward." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 9, no. 3 (1967), pp. 10-13.

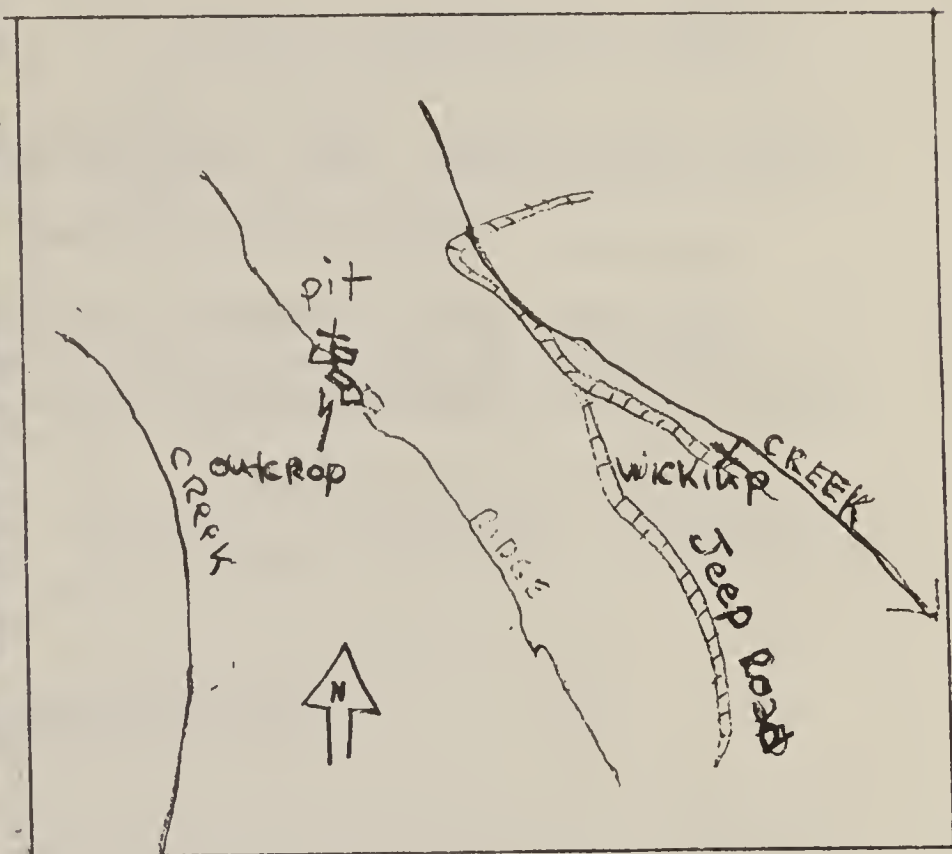
Mulloy. "A Preliminary Historical Outline for the Northwestern Plains." University of Wyoming Publications, 1958.

Battle pit / Eagle trap site (AR25-05-29)

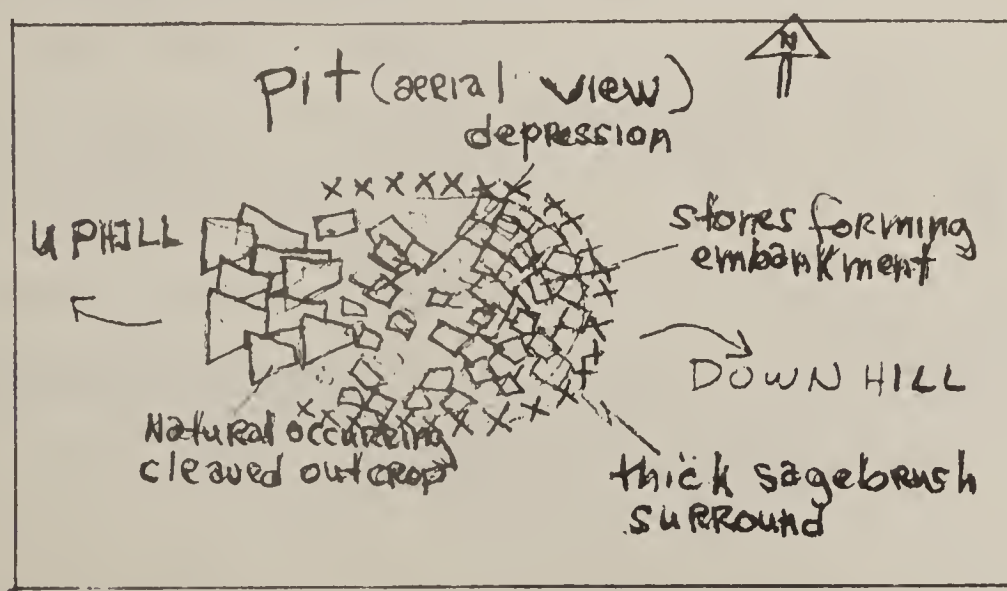
Location. 7S 6W on Mine Gulch, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. The site lies on the northeast side of a sandstone outcrop on the crest of a ridge. It is placed equidistance from two draws both containing water.

The pit affords a view east down the draw to the northeast and back up the opposite ridge. The outcrop itself is rather conspicuous from a distance, but the pit is well concealed by sagebrush, scrub fir and the natural coloration and textures of the stone. It is approximately fifteen feet in diameter being a bit ovoid in outline (long axis is oriented northeast/southwest). It is two feet deep with rocks seemingly thrown from the center depression to the northeast forefront. Sagebrush surrounds the structure, except for the area to the southeast which is an upper wall of the pit and an extension of the outcrop. The outcrop would also have served as a concealment while viewing the opposite side of this ridge (southwest). The water source to the southwest would have been more accessible than the source to the northeast.



Battle Pit / Eagle Trap Site (AR25-05-29)



The proximity of a wickiup (AR25-05-3) may suggest that this pit was used as an eagle trap (see Kidwell's article). Credence is also given to this interpretation because the view from the pit is restricted (the location of a battle pit may have required a more encompassing view).

Cultural affiliation. Probably used during the last one hundred-fifty years; may have been used by occupants of nearby wickiup.

Area of occupation. The area immediately to the southwest of the ridge would have been level enough for occupation.

Present condition. Poor.

Land ownership status. Forest Service.

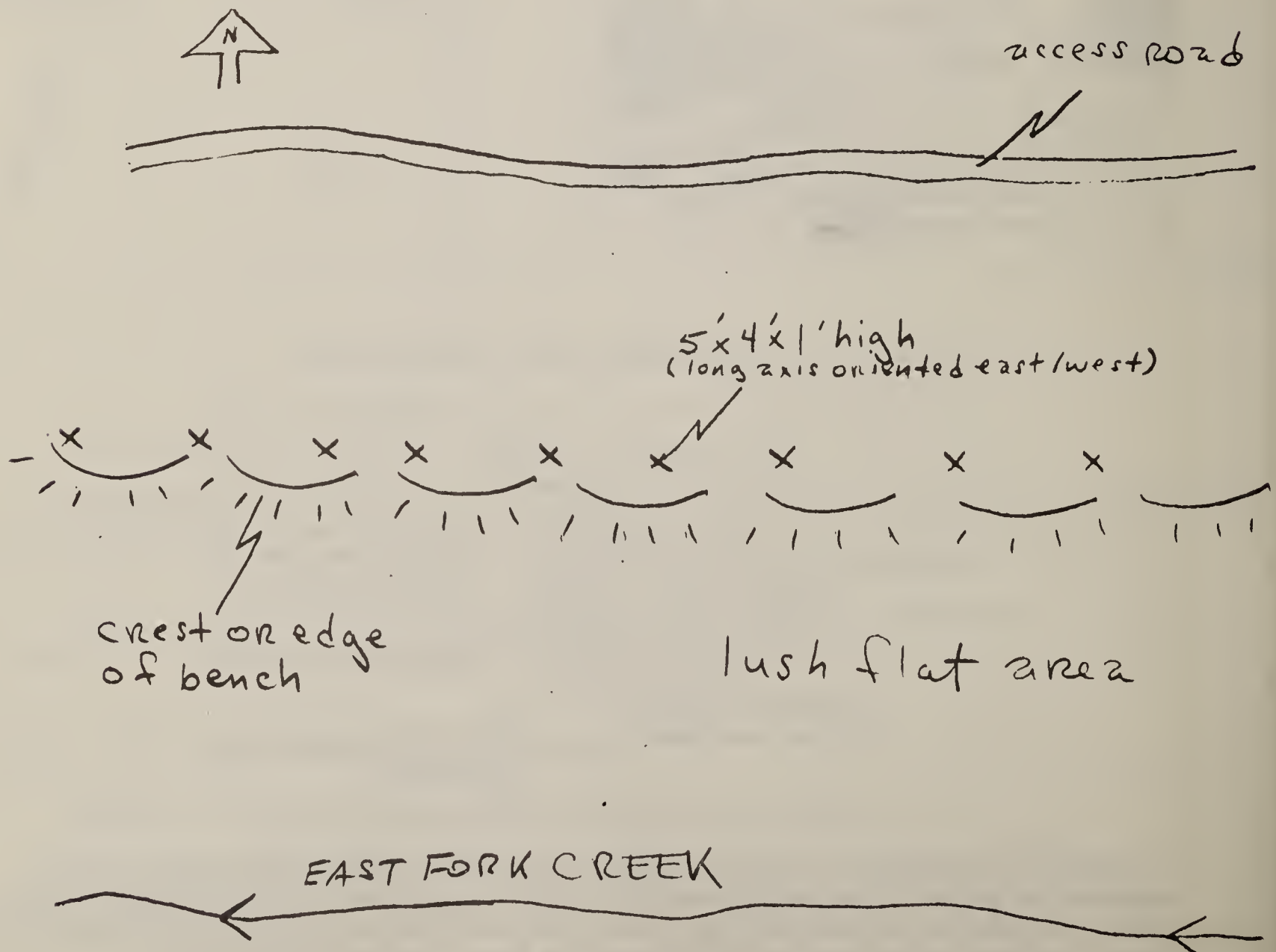
Informants and references. Kidwell. "The Conical Timbered Lodge on the Northwestern Plains." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 10, no. 4 (1969), pp. 1-49.

See (AR25-05-24).

Stone cairn alignment site (AR25-05-30)

Location. T11S R6W on Price Creek NE, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. These cairns appear to be larger than those in association with the tepee rings of this area. The dimensions for one of the larger cairns is five by four by one foot high. The alignment is oriented



east/west with the cairns placed on the edge or crest of the bench. The cairns are two hundred feet from the flat below and five hundred yards from the creek.



The cairns are widely separated by one hundred to two hundred feet, while the stone alignments associated with site (AR25-05-34) are separated by only twenty to thirty feet.

Cultural affiliation. Unknown.

Area of occupation. Buffalo jump site (AR25-05-12) and tepee ring site (AR25-05-34) are in proximity. These 'trail markers' resemble those associated with the above tepee rings.

Present condition. Good.

Land ownership status. Private.

Informants and references.

Malouf. "Stone Piles." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 3, no. 4 (1962), pp.1-5.

Stone cairn site (AR25-05-31)

Location. T1S R9W on Melrose, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. Stone cairn is four feet in diameter at its base and tapers to a conical point, one and a half feet high. It is made up of assorted size stones, some as large as one cubic foot. It rests at the apex of a low ridge which is very wind swept (again from the southwest).

Cultural affiliation. Unknown.

Area of occupation. Extensive, but undefined.

Present condition. Good.

Land ownership status. Private.

Informants and references. Hoy. "Alkali Creek Rock Cairn." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 2, no. 1 (1970), pp. 13-16.

Malouf. "Stone Piles." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 3, no. 4 (1962), pp. 1-5.

Stone alignment site (AR25-05-32)

Location. T1S R9W on Melrose, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. This is a segment of stone alignment running along a ridge east/west. The alignment seems to be made up of separate, individual stones as opposed to the more common clustering of stones into piles.

Cultural affiliation. Unknown.

Area of occupation. Extensive, but undefined (it may be associated with site (AR25-05-31)).

Present condition. Poor.

Land ownership status. Private.

Informants and references. Malouf. "Stone Piles." Archaeology in Montana, vol. 3, no. 4 (1962), pp. 1-5.

Dick Harmes, Ed Hastings.

Tepee ring site (AR25-05-33)

Location. T1N R14W on Pine Hill, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. "The rings are rather small in diameter, averaging about twelve feet across, and are made up of cobblestones of fairly large size. The bluff here is about fifty feet above the river, and at this particular spot is on the north bank. For the most part, the outline is made up of a single course of stones rather than being in a heap. All of the rings are within twenty-five feet of the river-bank (Malouf, 1950,p.2)."

Since Malouf's report, the number of rings have been reduced from twelve to six and the number of stone clusters from two to one. This reflects a half life ratio of twenty-five years for the decay of an archeological site. This not so startling news will hopefully spur continued preservation programs.

Feature 1 - Tepee Ring - Ten feet wide; single course of cobblestone.

Feature 2 - Tepee Ring - Undetermined diameter; single course of cobbles.
Northeast edge missing.

Feature 3 - Tepee Ring - Fourteen feet wide; single course of cobbles.

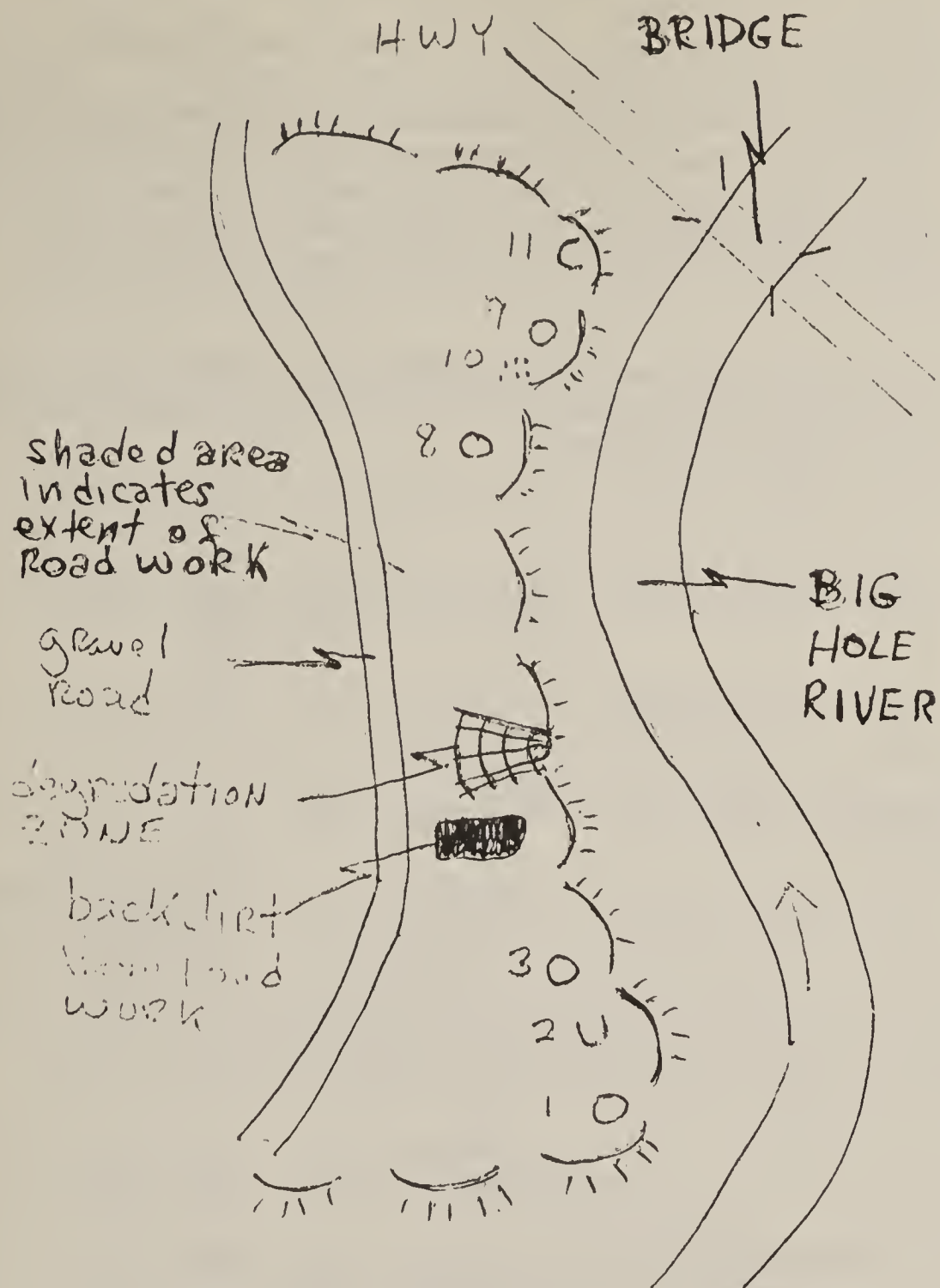
Features 4-7 and 12-13 - Have been destroyed by road constructuin and erosional forces since Malouf's survey of 1950.

Feature 8 - Tepee Ring - Fourteen feet wide. It is a complete ring and located near Features 9-11.

Feature 9 - Tepee Ring - Fourteen feet wide. There were no chips found in association as Malouf reported in 1950.

Feature 10 - Small cluster of cobbles. Malouf described it as a ring of stones. The locations of sites 9 and 10 are reversed from Malouf's original survey.

Feature 11 - Tepee Ring - Twelve feet wide. The southeast edge has been lost to erosion since 1950.



Tepee Ring Site (AR25-05-33)

Cultural affiliation. Unknown.

Area of occupation. "To the west of the site there are still traces of an old Indian trail (Malouf, 1950, p. 4)."

Present condition. Poor.

Land ownership status. Mr. Seefield ('50).

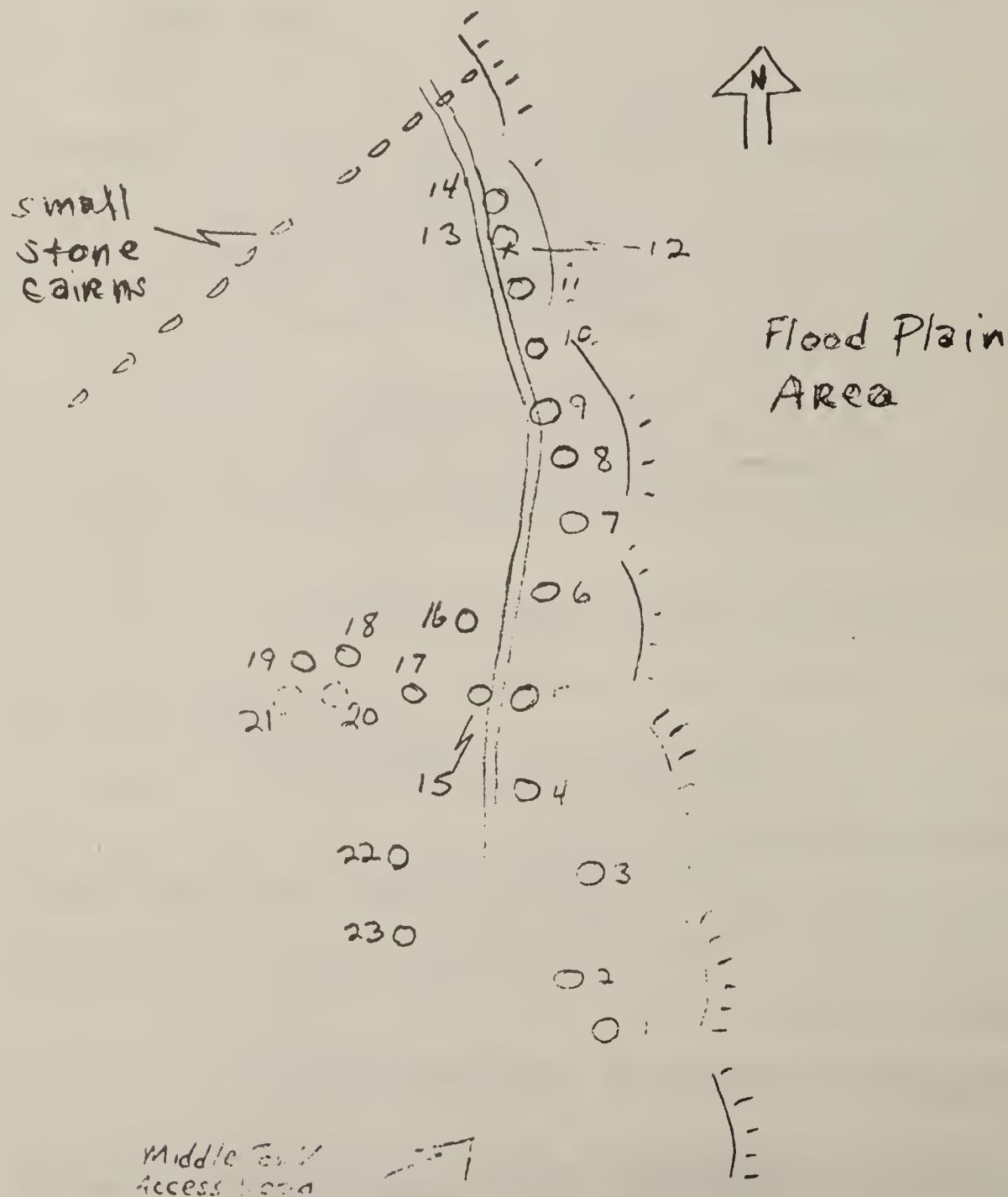
Informants and references. Malouf. "Notes on the Archaeology of the Big Hole Region." Anthropology and Sociology Papers. Missoula: Montana State University, 1950.
See (AR25-05-22).

Tepee ring site (AR25-05-34)

Location. T11S R6W on Whiskey Spring, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. The rings range in size from twelve to twenty feet in diameter and are made up of fairly large river cobbles. They rest on an elevated bench fifty to seventy-five feet above the flood plain and one to two hundred yards from the creek. Size variance and differences in physical condition of the rings imply that the bench has been occupied repeatedly through time. Most of the rings appear to be the multiple course variety. The smaller rings appear to be in worse condition and possibly older than the others.

Just north of the rings, running northeast/southwest across the bench and up a hill to the west, was found a chain of small cairns resembling trail markers. Their function is unknown.



Tepee Ring Site (AR25-05-34)

- Feature 1 - Tepee Ring - fair condition. Eighteen feet wide and a multiple course ring.
- Feature 2 - Tepee Ring - fair condition. Eighteen feet wide and a multiple course ring.
- Feature 3 - Tepee Ring - poor condition. Sixteen feet wide.
- Feature 4 - Tepee Ring - poor condition. Fifteen feet wide.
- Feature 5 - Tepee Ring - poor condition. Eighteen feet wide and probably a multiple course ring.
- Feature 6 - Tepee Ring - fair condition. Twenty feet wide and a multiple course ring.
- Feature 7 - Tepee Ring - fair condition. Fifteen feet wide and a multiple course ring.
- Feature 8 - Tepee Ring - poor condition. Thirteen feet wide and probably a multiple course ring.
- Feature 9 - Tepee Ring - poor condition. Fourteen feet wide. The access road has destroyed portions of the ring.
- Feature 10- Tepee Ring - fair condition. Seventeen feet wide and a multiple course ring.
- Feature 11- Tepee Ring - poor condition. Fourteen feet wide.
- Feature 12- Small cairn placed on south edge of tepee ring Feature 13. The pile appears to be a younger feature than the ring. It probably had no cultural association with the earlier ring.
- Feature 13- Tepee Ring - poor condition. It is probably old and a multiple course ring. Twelve feet wide.
- Feature 14- Tepee Ring - fair condition. It is composed of small cobbles and is a multiple course ring in outline.
- Feature 15- Tepee Ring - poor condition. Fourteen feet wide.
- Feature 16- Tepee Ring - fair condition. Eighteen feet wide and a multiple course ring.
- Feature 17- Tepee Ring - poor condition. Fifteen feet wide.
- Feature 18- Tepee Ring - poor condition. Fourteen feet wide and the inside is cluttered with stones.
- Feature 19- Tepee Ring - poor condition. Sixteen feet wide and apparently a single course ring.
- Feature 20- Problematic Ring - Thirteen feet wide, but my imagination may have gotten the better of me.

Feature 21 - Problematic Ring. Sixteen feet wide.

Feature 22 - Tepee Ring - poor condition. Twelve feet wide and apparently a single course ring.

Feature 23 - Tepee Ring - fair condition. Fifteen feet wide and apparently a single course ring.

Cultural affiliation. Unknown.

Area of occupation. There may be additional rings in the area. A buffalo jump lies two miles to the northwest (AR25-05-12).

Present condition. Fair.

Land ownership status. Private.

Informants and references. Malouf. "Stone Piles." Archaeology in Montana, Vol. 3, no. 4 (1962), pp. 1-5.

Malouf. "The Tipi Ring of the High Plains." American Antiquity, vol. 26, no. 3 (1960), pp. 381-389.

Tepee ring site (AR25-05-35)

Location. T9S R10W on Dalys, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. The rings are large, averaging about twenty-five feet in diameter. They are formed from the positioning of fairly large cobbles. They rest on a bench approximately fifty feet above a small creek running parallel with the east/west flow of the creek. As is the case with most tepee rings, they were strung along the crest of the bench and just above a water source. The rings appear to have been multiple course stone configurations as discussed in Malouf's article.

The rings have been heavily potted.

Feature 1 - Tepee Ring - poorly defined and probably old. Fourteen feet wide and a multiple course ring.

Feature 3 - Tepee Ring - fair condition. Twenty-nine feet wide and a multiple course ring. Shallow pits have been excavated near the center and the east edge of the ring by pothunters.

Feature 2 - Tepee Ring - very poorly defined and probably old. Twenty-two feet wide and a multiple course ring. The south edge is missing.

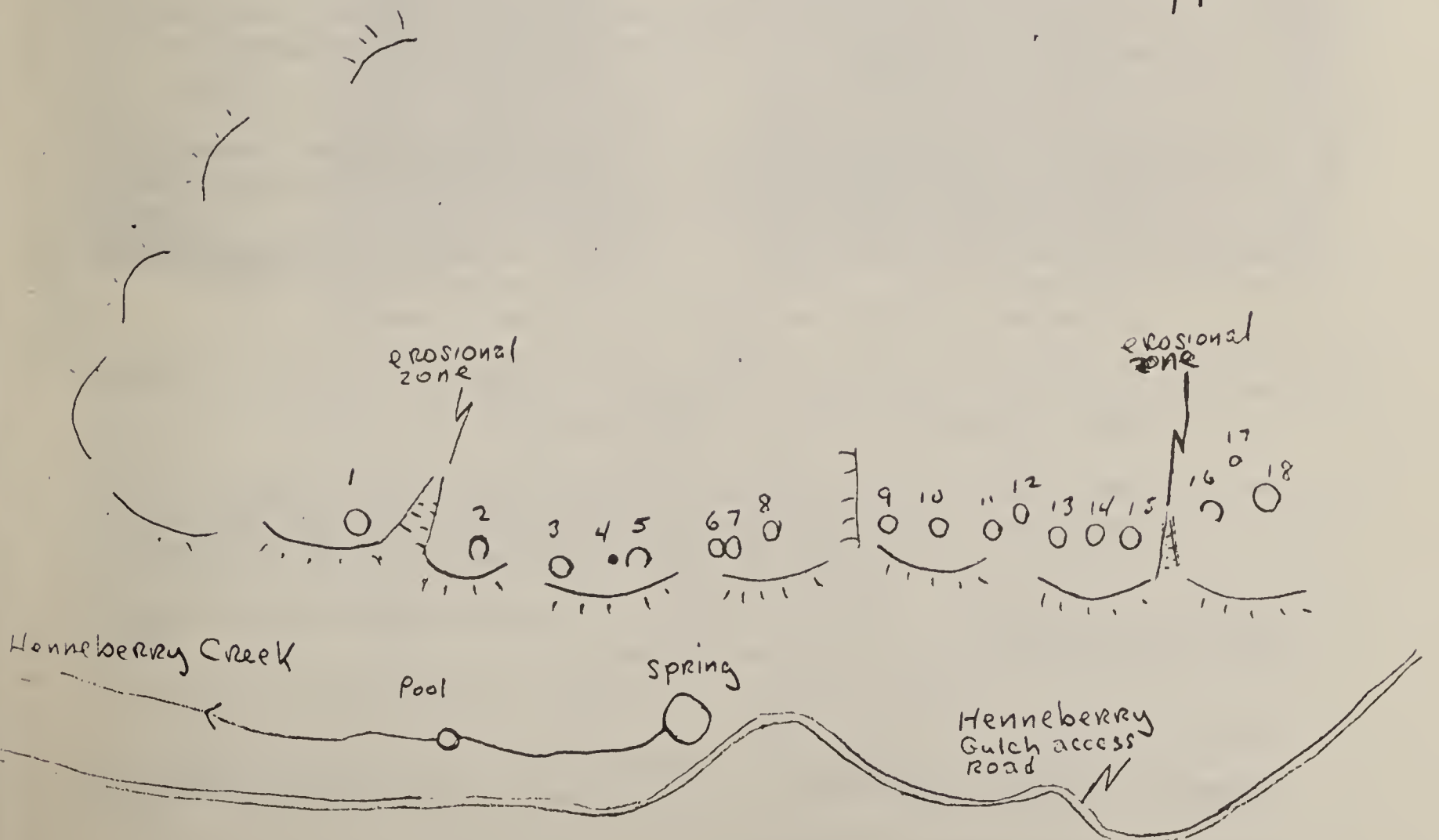
Feature 4 - Shallow depression of stone (river cobble size). No evidence of fire.

Feature 5 - Tepee Ring - fair condition. Twenty-six feet wide and a multiple course ring. The south edge has been lost to erosion.

Feature 6 - Tepee Ring - fair condition. Twenty-six feet wide and a multiple course ring. A pit has been dug near the center by pothunter.



Tepee Ring Site (AR25-05-35)



- Feature 7 - Tepee Ring - fair condition. Twenty-five feet wide and a multiple course ring. Pits have been excavated near the center and the east edge of the ring by pothunters. This ring is contiguous with Feature 6.
- Feature 8 - Tepee Ring - good condition. Twenty feet wide and a multiple course ring. A pit has been dug near the center by pothunters.
- Feature 9 - Tepee Ring - good condition. Twenty-four feet wide and a multiple course ring. Pits have been excavated on the west, north and east edges of the ring by pothunters.
- Feature 10- Tepee Ring - fair condition. Twenty-six feet wide and a multiple course ring. Pits have been dug near the center and south edge by pothunters, recently.
- Feature 11- Tepee Ring - excellent condition. Twenty-five feet wide and a multiple course ring. A pit has recently been dug near the center by a pothunter.
- Feature 12- Tepee Ring - excellent condition. Twenty-three feet wide and a multiple course ring. A pit has been dug near the center by a pothunter.
- Feature 13- Tepee Ring - excellent condition. Twenty-six feet wide and a multiple course ring. The center and the north edge have been dug by a pothunter.
- Feature 14- Tepee Ring - excellent condition. Twenty-five feet wide and a multiple course ring. The south edge has been excavated by pothunters.
- Feature 15- Tepee Ring - excellent condition. Twenty-five feet wide and a multiple course ring. Pots have been dug near the center and the north edge by pothunters.
- Feature 16- Problematic Ring. Sixteen feet wide and probably a single course ring. South portion of the ring is missing.
- Feature 17- Stone Ring with center excavated to a depth of one foot. Seven feet in diameter and no evidence of fire.
- Feature 18- Tepee Ring - poor condition, but distinguishable. Twenty-six feet wide and a multiple course ring. This ring may show some antiquity, as revealed by advanced lichen growth on the stones.

Cultural affiliation. Unknown; however, the site appears to have been occupied intermittently over a period of time.

Area of occupation. Bench only.

Present condition. Excellent.

Land ownership status. Private.

Informants and references. Malouf. "The Tipi Rings of the High Plains." American Antiquity, vol.26, no. 3 (1960), pp. 381-389.
Don Wilson, BLM.

'Beehive' coke kiln site (HS25-05-1)

Location. 6S 11W on Ermont, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. The height of the structure is thirty feet with a diameter of twenty feet at ground level. A large vent is located at the apex of this conical 'beehive' structure (apparently a chimney orifice). The entrance to the kiln faces the east toward the creek. An elevated window/vent faces the west. These two openings have a 'true arch' made from quarried granite and quartzite. The entrance stands nearly five feet high by three feet wide. The window is three feet by one and a half feet. The structure is



composed of a plaster cementing the masonry. Pink quartzite and granite were the type of stones mortared in place. The interior of the structure was charred. A large pile of stones near the center of the structure's floor appears to be a hearth. Large quarried granite stones make up this hearth which is nearly a foot high by five feet in diameter. A large iron sheet-metal plate with a rectangular shape was found near the entrance. It may represent a door or like cover. The structure rests against a bench which would have allowed access to the elevated window. The entrance lies further below.

Cultural affiliation. 1890's (?) History unknown at this time.

Area of occupation. A metal hatch cover was found thirty feet west of the kiln.

Present condition. Good.

Informants and references. Ed Hastings.

Road Agent Rock site (HS25-05-2)

Location. T7S R11W on Bannack, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. This rock is said to have been a hiding place from which Henry Plummer's gang of road agents would way-lay gold laden travelers and relieve them of their load and sometimes their lives. It is positioned near the crest of a hill where an unsuspecting party might stop to rest a team or slow to negotiate the downward grade. It is large enough to conceal three or four mounted 'bad guys' from view, for as long as they liked.



Cultural affiliation. 1863.

Area of occupation. Bannack / Virginia City Trail.

Present condition. Good.

Land ownership status. BLM

Informants and references. Stout, Tom, ed. Montana: Its Story and Biography. Chicago: The American Historical Society, 1921 (photo, p. 248).

Stanley Davison (Professor of History - Western Montana College), Ed Hastings, Elfreda Woodside.

Way station site (HS25-05-3)

Location. 7S 10W on Burns, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. Three wood structures once served as a way station for travelers between Bannack and Dillon. One of the three structures has



been lost to fire, but two others still stand. One is a subterranean dwelling which faces toward the creek bed. It is designed with three walls within the hillside and a sod roof. The other structure is a small log cabin made from mill cut logs and mortar. Both standing structures are oriented with their long axis east/west.

Cultural affiliation. 1900's.

Area of occupation. The accompanying trail between Bannack and Dillon.

Present condition. Poor due to fire.

Land ownership status. State.

Informants and references. Ed Hastings, Elfreda Woodside.

Railroad grade site (HS25-05-4)

Location. Grant, Montana map and others (USGS).

Site description. "Traversing the county from north to south is a branch of the Oregon Short Line Railroad from Pocatello to Butte, while the Gilmore and Pittsburgh Railroad, in the southern part of the county, furnishes transportation from Armstead to Salmon, Idaho (Stout, p. 668)."



The grade is quite noticeable from the highway, marked by a train depot eight miles from Armstead, a trestle, a tunnel and many elevated ridge fills. On closer examination of the ties, the railroad appears to have been a narrow gauge rail.

In the Bannack Pass area the grade seems to meander aimlessly before it crosses the divide into Idaho. The present highway travels almost directly through the mountains into Idaho. It is said that many aboriginal artifacts were collected or destroyed by the construction of the railroad.

Cultural affiliation. Operating when Stout edited his book in 1921.

Area of occupation. From Armstead (Clark Canyon Reservoir) to Salmon City, Idaho.

Present condition. Fair.

Land ownership status. BLM and Private.

Informants and references. Stout, Tom, ed. Montana: Its Story and Biography. Chicago: The American Historical Society, 1921, pp. 668-669. Frank Barnes, Ed Hastings.

Trail pass site (HS25-05-5)

Location. T12S R14W on Bannock Pass, Montana map (USGS).

Site description. This area was traversed many times by many different interest groups. The Gilmore and Pittsburg Railroad passed near the present Highway 324 'Bannock Pass' marker. A freight trail, branching from the Main Over Land North, passed over this spot heading for Salmon City (1877). The fleeing Nez Perce, hounded by Howard and his company, were forced over the pass in August 1877.

Cultural affiliation. 1800's.

Area of occupation. Bannock Pass and surrounds.

Present condition. Good.

Land ownership status. BLM

Informants and references. Brown. The Flight of the Nez Perce. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1967, p.280.

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Stout. Montana: Its Story and Biography. Chicago: The American Historical Society, 1921, pp. 668-669.

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This intern report was read and accepted by a staff member at:

Agency: Bureau of Land Management

Address: Box 1048
Dillon, Montana 59725

This report was completed by a WICHE intern. This intern's project was part of the Resources Development Internship Program administered by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE).

The purpose of the internship program is to bring organizations involved in community and economic development, environmental problems and the humanities together with institutions of higher education and their students in the West for the benefit of all.

For these organizations, the intern program provides the problem-solving talents of student manpower while making the resources of universities and colleges more available. For institutions of higher education, the program provides relevant field education for their students while building their capacity for problem-solving.

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